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NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

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GULF STATES PROPOSE COUNTERALLIANCE TO LIBYA'S MOVES IN AFRICA

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 227 13 Sep 81 pp 20, 21

/Article by 'Ali Hashim: "The Gulf: The Soviet Element Alone Links Libya to Ethiopia and Yemen; The Gulf Shows Fear over the Tripartite Alliance"/

/Text/ The treaty of friendship and cooperation signed by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Ethiopia and the Libyan Jamahiriyyah has stirred up special interest in the countries of the Arab Gulf. It has revealed the fears of some officials who consider it a new political alliance which, if it did not come about through the will of the Soviets, is at least being guided by the Soviets to their benefit, to establish their presence in the region.

A Gulf official has described the treaty or alliance as coming about as a direct Soviet reply to the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], which arose through the will of the people of the region and their officials, without any interference or hints from any entity, Arab or foreign.

The official told AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI that nothing links Libya to Ethiopia, for example, except cooperation in carrying out an African policy which has come to be well known, and that nothing links Libya to the Republic of South Yemen except the attempt to carry out a new policy in the region of the Red Sea and the Arab Gulf. Arabhood is a factor that binds, the two republics belong to the Arab League, and they are linked by a specific policy toward the Middle East issue, belonging to the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front, which links Algeria, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization to them. Also, the Gulf official went on, the new treaty arose for non-Arab ends, since here two Arab countries are in alliance with a country that is at war with another Arab country, Somalia. The declared goals of the treaty have been transcended by goals which the Gulf countries are trying to unearth.

Why Ethiopia?

Observers in the Gulf region pause to consider the introduction of Ethiopia as an ally of two Arab countries, since there are problems and wars between Ethiopia and more than one Arab country. There is the issue of the Ogaden region with Somalia and then the issue of Eritrea and the alliance with it, that is, the haphazard stand against the Arab revolution in Eritrea. Observers wonder about the meaning

behind the establishment of this alliance, now that the Committee on Gulf Cooperation [within the GCC] was established a few months ago and they, in accordance with interpretations by informed Gulf officials, are aspiring to establish a bloc in the region which will link the Soviets and be allied with them if the struggle for influence in the region falters and international forces attempt to create solutions to existing problems, especially the problem of Afghanistan.

The Emirates Deny

The declaration of the agreement was accompanied by more than one event. The first, attributed to the state of the United Arab Emirates, was that it held secret talks with the Soviets aimed at exchanging diplomatic recognition and representation. Abu Dhabi's deputy foreign minister, Mr Ya'qub al-Kindi, declared that this item of news was totally untrue and said that talks in this regard did not take place. He also denied the signing of oil agreements on opening commercial offices in the state of the emirates or agreements on the landing of Soviet planes in the state's airports with the Soviets.

The second event was the execution of a cabinet change in the government of Aden and the appointment of Col Salim Muslih Qasim as minister of defense and Lt Col 'Abdallah al-Maqami as minister of the interior.

The third event was the visit that the president of the state of the United Arab Emirates, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Aal Nuhayyan, is to make to the Sultanate of Oman next Monday, 7 September. Shaykh Zayid's visit will end the problems that have existed regarding the issue of the boundaries between the sultanate and the state of the emirates, especially those in the area of Ra's Musandam, which embraces the Strait of Hormuz and the Emirate of Ra's al-Khaymah. The vice president of the state of the emirates, Prime Minister Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, had managed to set forth an agreement on this boundary question in a previous visit.

The Gulf countries that belong to the GCC have not yet expressed direct opinion on the Aden treaty, since the Sultanate of Oman alone has declared that the new agreement is Soviet "marxist" and constitutes a danger to the security and safety of the region. The Omani deputy minister of the interior, Mr Yusuf al-'Ilwi 'Abdallah, declared that the sultanate will take steps that will result in facing what he termed the new danger. What Oman and the other countries of the region have not announced is that urgent consultation took place on the sidelines of the al-Ta'if conference which the foreign ministers of the council states held.

Although the meetings were devoted to economic issues, some ministers raised the issue of the Libyan-South Yemeni-Ethiopian alliance. This meeting emphasized that the Soviets' objective in the new treaty was to establish a regional bloc that Moscow would embrace which would function as one of its points of concentration in the area of the Red Sea and the Gulf, that the treaty was not just aimed at confronting American policy but also at warning regimes in the area that it had entered the stage of international conflict and that Moscow was no longer remote from the oil area, that it was Moscow that had exploited its presence in Afghanistan, the collapse of domestic conditions in Iran, and the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran and had exploited all the West's apprehensions that they were no longer remote

from the oil, and that while the United States of America had acquired some facilities in some countries of the area, it, that is, Moscow, was able not just to establish bases for itself but also to establish a regional bloc to maintain them and resist the GCC, which was established only to keep the area apart from international struggles.

The Oil Countries--Where to?

Foreign diplomats have been hesitating to act so far, waiting to gather information on the true nature of events in Aden and the real long-term nature of the new alliance. Moderate countries like Kuwait and the state of the emirates have been requested not to take a position at the present time, in order to look into the information they have received from the Libyan president, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, following his abrupt visit to them after his departure from Aden, while the other countries, including the Sultanate of Oman, have been requested to move rapidly to block off the new treaty. They have said openly that it constitutes a danger to the security of the region and have launched a violent attack against it, attacking the three regimes in the treaty in Aden, Tripoli and Addis Ababa. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has not declared an opinion on the new step, and it is expected that the contacts that had been going on between Riyadh and Aden will now be suspended.

The amazement of the Gulf area arose from Libya's orientation toward the region of the Red Sea and the Arab Gulf, since the regime had previously, as circles in Riyadh say, been preoccupied with numerous problems, starting with the problem of Chad, the air confrontation with the American fleet, and the merger union presented to more than one country extending from Africa to the Arab Gulf. Riyadh is watching things closely, along with the Gulf states, including Qatar and Bahrain, but the Saudis have not been watching long, since they are convinced that the Aden agreement is not aimed at the good or stability of the region. The position might not be declared by the media, since Saudi Arabia generally holds its tongue on its relations and movements; rather, this position might appear through diplomatic movements and resolutions aimed at strengthening the Gulf Security Council and giving it new status in the Arab and International contexts.

11887

CSO: 4404/12

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

SAUDI PEACE PLAN TO BE ON AGENDA OF ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 83, 12-18 Sep 81 p 20

[Article: "Gulf Cooperation Council Foreign Ministers: Prince Fahd's Proposals Before the Arab Summit"]

[Text] The foreign ministers of the six Gulf Cooperation Council nations, who met in Ta'if from 31 August to 2 September, found themselves facing new developments that had to be dealt with, even if only in a general way.

The South Yemeni-Ethiopian-Libyan pact, and the death of the president and prime minister of Iran, forced them into prolonged debate.

Oman, preoccupied as always with the question of security, and sensitive to Aden's moves, saw in the pact confirmation of her efforts to concentrate on security before talking about economic coordination and integration. Although the Council's secretary general, 'Abdullah Basharah, expressed his uneasiness over the agreement, he also stated that the discussions were delaying the adoption of any unanimous position regarding the agreement. At a conference immediately following completion of the discussions, Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal declared that there was not enough information about the agreement, and that there had been no contacts with any of the signatory nations in order to learn their points of view. Therefore, it was difficult to adopt a position regarding it. However, Omani Foreign Minister Qais al-Zawawi stated that the time for unilateral positions on the part of Oman was over. His statement was evidence of the fact that Oman's security apprehensions had caused her to become the closest of the Gulf states to the former shah's regime, as well as her special relationship with the United States.

The GCC in its final communique declared "its determination to strengthen political and security coordination among the member states, in order to meet the dangers surrounding the region and to increase the contacts for the purpose of putting an end to these dangers." The council reaffirmed that "Gulf security and stability were both the responsibility of its states alone," and expressed "its opposition to major powers' attempts to interfere in the region's affairs."

Prince Fahd's Proposals

Recent events in Iran, which ended in the death of Muhammad 'ali Raja'i and Muhammad Javad Bahonar, have underscored once more Gulf concerns regarding the course of events in Iran. The council's condemnation of Iran's seizure of a ship within

Gulf waters was one expression of these concerns. On the other hand the council again expressed its support for the efforts of the Islamic mediation committee, which is an offshoot of the Islamic conference, and the council's readiness to undertake any role to stop the conflict and restore stability to the region.

Accordingly, the most important point in the communique was the Gulf states' adoption of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's eight points, which he announced during the first part of last month, and to work for its inclusion in the agenda of the next Arab summit conference. That is so the plan can be arabicized and become a springboard for a unified Arab strategy.

The communique did not forget to affirm the council nations' support for the Arab issues, although it was again reiterated that the council does not constitute an axis and that its work is not incompatible with the Arab League charter.

The second principal concern of the ministers was to study the economic agreement completed by the ministers of finance and economy during their meeting in Riyadh last June, for the purpose of confirming it and submitting it to the kings and chiefs of state for ratification when they meet next November in Riyadh.

The economic agreement is composed of 25 articles and forms a framework for coordination in all areas pertaining to economic activity, including freedom of trade and movement of capital, lifting restrictions on customs, abolishing bilateral agreements and replacing them with a unified agreement, in addition to coordination of policies concerning wages and employment, abolishing duplication in industrialization, and dealing with the rights of the citizens of the six states on an equal basis. The six council states are dependent on oil as a basic economic source of revenue, and are a community able to produce more than half of OPEC's daily production.

Economic Coordination

Gulf coordination in the economic sphere is nothing new. The formation of the Gulf airline was one of the oldest and most successful of the joint Gulf projects, since it dates back to 1950. Participating in it are Bahrain, in which the firm's headquarters is located, Qatar, where the hotel and helicopter headquarters are, Oman, where the center for light aircraft is located, and Abu Dhabi with the maintenance workshop.

Gulf economic coordination is premised on the fact that oil, which is the basic source of wealth, is at the same time a dwindling asset. There must be planning for whatever follows the oil age, and the six states must pursue a unified economic philosophy that permits the maximum possible freedom for the movement of private capital.

In 1979, coordination began to take on a collective and organized form, when the Gulf states' ministers of planning met and approved the establishment of a permanent secretariat, confirmed a budget for the work, and agreed to periodic meetings. The ministers held their second meeting in Doha the following year, and the council was established this year, in order to put matters into a more comprehensive framework.

Some bold steps were also taken last year, since Saudi Arabia announced that it had scrapped its plans to build an aluminum plant after 5 years of preparations. That was done for the benefit of the existing plant in Bahrain and another plant

expected to be built in Dubai. That was followed by the kingdom's participation in the Bahrain plant, with a 20 percent share. It is expected that the plant's production capacity will be increased from 120,000 tons to 165,000 tons next year. Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait have also agreed to jointly build a petrochemical complex to produce methanol and ammonia, at a cost of \$185.2 million.

More importantly, Saudi Arabia announced that when the Saudi Company for Basic Industries (SABEK) which is a heavy industry company, offers its shares to the public in the middle of this decade, Gulf citizens will be able to purchase shares exactly as Saudi citizens.

The economic paper also called for coordination of Gulf assistance, which the council states offer either bilaterally or through regional foundations, such as the OPEC Fund for example. The Economic Cooperation and Development Organization estimated that total assistance from the OPEC nations in 1980 was \$6,999 billion, of which \$6,798 billion was paid out by Arab members of OPEC. Of this amount, \$5,580 billion was borne by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE.

The industrial committee will meet prior to the meeting of the kings and princes. It will deal with the fundamental question: What comes after the age of oil? The committee will also deal with coordination of efforts to diversify the bases upon which the Gulf economy rests.

7005

CSO: 4404/32

OMAN TAKES HARD LINE ON DUTIES OF NEW COUNCIL

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 237 5 Sep 81 p 15

/Article by Najib 'Abd-al-Hadi: "Oman's Dispute with the Gulf States Presents the Cooperation Council with the threat of Dissolution"/

/Talk/ Talk about the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] remains the preoccupation of the leaders of the gulf states, who are seeking the most successful, secure ways for making this council succeed and enabling it to establish its presence and existence in the Arab and international contexts.

The purpose of the meeting of the Gulf states foreign ministers held in al-Ta'if last Monday was to discuss the executive steps the council has taken, to hear a report prepared by its secretary general, Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah, and to prepare for a meeting of its leaders at their second summit, which is to be held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia next November.

It appears that the foreign ministers found themselves faced with political events that had recently arisen, events that demanded that they add new emergency headings to their agenda, which had been prepared some weeks before their meeting.

Among these headings is a project of Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince, which was announced last month. This "project-initiative" ought to have enjoyed the attention of the foreign ministers and to have been abundantly, intensively studied, and therefore the member countries of the council ought to have announced their opinion on it and spelled out their official position on it.

Following what was discussed in al-Ta'if, one can say that the foreign ministers of the Gulf states supported the Saudi project but saw fit not to declare their support at the present time but to leave this task to their leaders, who could express their views and declare their position when they met at their next meeting.

The second heading that was introduced into the agenda of the council of state foreign ministers was the treaty of friendship signed in Aden, which comprised the Democratic Republic of Yemen, Libya and Ethiopia. This issue was raised by the Sultanate of Oman, which expressed its anxiety and dissatisfaction with this treaty, considering that it was directed against the whole council.

It appears that the Sultanate of Oman offered the foreign ministers of the Gulf states its view in writing, demanded that that view be considered in effect a new working paper, and demanded that the member countries study it with exceptional care in order to ascertain the extent of the Soviet danger threatening the security of the sultanate first of all and the security of the Gulf secondly.

The Sultanate of Oman considers that its view of the political situation in the region has not evolved, that what it has said and is saying about the danger latent in the region--represented by the regime in the Democratic Republic of Yemen, which displays enmity toward it--has been confirmed with the signing of the abovementioned treaty, and that this requires serious study on the part of the council states, concentrating on the dimensions of the goals of this treaty from the political and military standpoints, especially since the Soviet Union supports this development and encourages its continuation.

AL-MUSTAQBAL has learned from widely-informed diplomatic and political sources that the friendship treaty signed by Aden, Libya and Ethiopia was not the product of an impulse but rather arose through secret visits made by some political officials in the three countries, involving the three capitals, that had been going for a substantial time.

The secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Mr 'Abdallah Bisharah, said in his latest press statement that he hoped that the reasons for the differences between the foreign policy of the Sultanate of Oman and the foreign policy that the other Gulf states are pursuing will be eliminated, and pointed out that these reasons are not Arab at all.

He also said "The Sultanate of Oman has its own philosophy of foreign policy and we hope that what has compelled the sultanate to adopt an independent foreign policy approach will disappear."

Some observers who specialize in foreign policy affairs say that the Sultanate of Oman does indeed have its own philosophy of foreign affairs and will not proceed to change this philosophy unless it becomes convinced that the GCC has the ability and effectiveness to fill the security and military vacuum in the region. Therefore it insists that the Council of Cooperation discuss the working paper it presented to the leaders of the gulf states at their first summit, which was held in Abu Dhabi.

It is to be observed that the member states of the council have been anxious to stress that the Omani working paper is still in front of the Gulf state foreign ministers, that they are diligently studying it, and that it will be the focal point of the second summit meeting of gulf state leaders. If the leaders arrive at a formulation that pleases the Sultanate of Oman, the possibility that the sultanate will swerve from its "special philosophy" of foreign policy will be raised. Otherwise, the Sultanate of Oman will hold to its position and "philosophy," and this might have an effect in one form or another on the course of the GCC.

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CSO: 4404/12

COMMITTEE APPROVES LAND REFORM PLAN

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in Dari 23 Aug 81 pp 1, 2, 3

[Text] Chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers convened before noon yesterday to discuss continuation of the just application fo democratic land reform.

First Babrak Karmal, concerning the importance of democratic land reforms, expressed some scientific and valuable ideas, and said: The most important issue for the national democratic Sawr revolution was the just, democratic solution of the land problem. This solution was administered in conformity with the specific characteristics of our society, keeping in view the religious beliefs, customs and traditions of our people. It was carried out step by step, without haste, with the active cooperation of villagers, landowners and all national, patriotic forces.

In the session there was discussion concerning the practical plans for democratic land reform which were presented to the committee by the ministry of agriculture and land reform. Following complete deliberation, the plan of the Commission of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers for continuing application of land reform was unanimously approved.

The approved legislation of the Commission of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers for the continuation of land reform application, dated 14 Sonbolah 1360 [5 September 1981] is as follows:

The national democratic Sawr revolution, having an anti-feudalist, anti-imperialist essence, was the beginning of all the basic, fundamental transformations of our dear Afghantistan. The just solution to the land problem by means of a gradual implementation of democratic land reform is one of the most urgent duties of this revolution. This land reform is implemented to benefit the farmers and workers through their direct and active participation with the support of all the national, patriotic forces. The farmers, as the broadest mass in the country, were the main source of support for the Sawr national democratic revolution. In union with the worker class, under the PDPA's leadership, in the framework of a national fatherland front, they can perform a huge role in bringing the revolution to final victory.

The PDPA, the political scout for the worker class and all the country's toilers, despite all the difficulties, has continuously remained the most sincere defender of

the toiling farmers. This fact has been confirmed during its relentless campaigns, such as its practical activities, its organization of propaganda work for the awakening and organizing of the farmers, and its bringing forward the farmers' real desire for land.

In the first days after the revolution's victory, the DRA government proposed the implementation of democratic land reform as the most urgent duty in order to transfer social and political power to the country's toiling people and to eliminate feudalism. By the partial application of this reform, a crushing blow was inflicted on the body of feudalism, and land was distributed to a large number of farming families having little or no land. However, due to the shameless interference of counterrevolutionary elements, reactionary and imperialistic intrigues, deviation from the revolutionary law and the committing of mistakes, the continuation of land reform was arrested.

On 30 Jawza 1360 [20 June 1981] the political body of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers approved the continuation of the just, democratic land reform, and founded the Commission of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers to continue the just, democratic application of land reforms.

The Commission, in this session, in view of the importance of applying democratic land reform in order to provide land for the toiling farmers, and establish the ownership of farmers and landowners, approves the following articles:

1 - The Commission welcomes the decree of the ruling body of the Revolutionary Council, that is Supplement No 1 to DRA Revolutionary Council Decree No 8 concerning land, and declares its complete readiness to apply it.

Provincial Land Reform Examining and Coordinating Commissions and Land Reform Operations Groups are responsible for application of the orders contained in this decree in the course of implementation.

2 - The Commission sanctions the practical plans for the continued just application of democratic land reform in the DRA which have been prepared by the ministry of agriculture and land reform.

3 - The Commission sanctions all the tables, forms, ledgers and other documents which were prepared by the ministry of agriculture and land reform and presented to the Commission.

4 - The ministry of agriculture and land reform is responsible for adopting practical policies in order to implement the aforementioned plan; for beginning primary operation plans, which include evaluation of the previous stage of land reform, in a concentrated fashion in several provinces; and furthermore to administer the operation plan in two districts of each province. The aforementioned plan should be first begun experimentally in the two districts of Kabul Province by 15 Sonbolah 1360 [6 September 1981].

5 - The provincial party committees and provincial governors will be guided so that they can establish Examining and Coordinating Commissions by the end of Sonbolah 1360 [22 September 1981] and notify the ministry of agriculture and land reform of the two districts in each province so that the ministry can evaluate them. This will be done in conformity with the guidance in the legislation approved by the political body of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers

concerning the continued just application of land reform dated 30 Jawza 1360 [20 June 1981].

6 - The ministries of agriculture and land reform, and finance are responsible for preparing and presenting to this Commission detailed practical policies for the organization of farmers and agricultural cooperatives, and the granting of financial and technical aid to farmers by 1 'Aqrab 1360 [23 October 1981]. These policies will be prepared with the serious cooperation of the agricultural cooperative central councils, and by means of the Bank for Agricultural Development, the Afghan Chemical Fertilizer and Seed Distribution Organization, the general directorship of agricultural propagation and production, the directorship of agricultural cooperative development and the general directorship for agricultural mechanization.

7 - The ministries of water and electric public utilities, public health, and education, the directorship of village development, and directorship of agricultural cooperative development are responsible for preparing practical plans for carrying out construction and repair work on the irrigation system and construction groundwork in villages, offices and hospitals. These plans must be presented to the Commission for approval by 15 Qaws 1360 [6 Dec 1981].

8 - In order to correct errors of the previous stage of land reform, the ministry of finance is responsible for preparing, according to need, official documents of land ownership and other valuable documents which were planned by the ministry of agriculture and land reform. In accordance with the planned program, the ministry must send these documents to the provincial accounting offices before application of the practical plans, referred to in Article Two of this legislation, commences.

9 - The ministry of justice, in cooperation with the ministries of agriculture and land reform, and water and electric power, is responsible for preparing a plan for a water law and regulations for agricultural water use by 31 Sonbolah 1360 [22 September 1981]. The same ministries are furthermore responsible for preparing amendments to the orders in Decree No 8, Regulations No 1 and 2 of Decree No 8, and amendments to the Law Regulation Land Ownership Affairs by the end of Mizan 1360 [22 October 1981]. All these plans and amendments must be presented to the Commission by the aforementioned dates.

10 - The main plans for the continued just, democratic application of land reform must be administered without delay and without haste, taking into consideration the time-table for the operation plans.

11 - During the implementation of the land reform operation plans, religious beliefs, customs and traditions of our people will be strictly observed.

12 - The Provincial Land Reform Examining and Coordinating Commissions are responsible for organizing Propaganda Committees with the participation of representatives from social organizations, patriotic clergy, elders, tribal leaders and teachers. The Commissions are responsible for organizing propaganda about land reform according to a specific plan, beginning 1 Mizan 1360 [23 September 1981], throughout the country.

13 - The Provincial Land Reform Examining and Coordinating Commissions are responsible for organizing in each district Committees for Land Reform Application, composed of

farmers with little or no land, agricultural workers, landowners and patriotic clergy. These Committees will have an active part in the application of every portion of the program.

14 - Control of the application of this legislation is the responsibility of the Economic Branch of the PDPA Central Committee and the Central Bureau for Administrative Regulation of the DRA Council of Ministers.

9557

CSO: 4665/2

ALGERIA

KABYLIA IGNORES CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE BY BERBER MOVEMENT

Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Sep 81 p 4

[Article by Daniel Junqua: "Kabylia Ignored Call for General Strike Issued by 'Movement for the Berber and Democracy'"7]

[Text] Tizi-Ouzou--On Monday, 28 September, Kabylia totally ignored the call for a 24-hour general strike issued by a mysterious "Movement for the Berber and Democracy," which, according to the terms of a leaflet distributed during the past 2 weeks, sought to protest against "the anti-democratic and segregationist policy" of the government. The authors of this leaflet, which was also distributed in Paris, denounced "the detention of militant members of the Berber Cultural Movement, the exclusion of students from the lycees in Bejaia and Tizi-Ouzou, and the suspension from work of sympathizing workers." The strike on 28 September was to be the high point of a one-week school boycott, from 26 September to 2 October.

Contrary to what had happened on 16 April 1980 and 15 March 1981, the people of Tizi-Ouzou continued to go about their occupations. The open stores, the extent of automobile traffic, the activity at work sites, the crowds at the tables of Algerian cafes--everything indicated a normal life. No particular police arrangements were visible, and the square of the Gendarmerie barracks in the center of the city, where reserve forces assemble in case of tension, was empty.

The same impression of relaxation prevailed in neighboring towns, and, in particular, all along the road which leads to Ain-El-Hammam, passing through Larba-Nait-Irathen (the former Fort-National), in a region considered particularly favorable to those opposed to the government. At Dra-Ben-Khedda, the SONITEX textile factory, which employs some 1,500 workers, was operating normally. The crowds of children going to school or coming home from there were a sign that the school strike, apparently, was almost as great a failure as that of the general strike. Only a few lycees and colleges were affected on Saturday morning [26 September] by movements of protest, but everything seemed to be back to normal by Monday, 28 September.

At least two reasons may explain the slight response found by the organizers of the protest movement. First, the leaders of the Berber Cultural Movement were divided over the timeliness of such an action, and the moderate elements, concerned to limit activity to the cultural field, had refused to associate themselves with it. Then, the supporters of the strike were taken at a disadvantage by the decision of the government to establish in all the large Algerian universities departments to teach the people's languages, thereby giving a large place to the study of Berber (LE MONDE, 27-28 September). After that the climate was more favorable to the resumption of a dialogue than to a clash.

It is believed that the cultural alibi has been smouldering for a long time in certain circles favorable to the government. These circles emphasize that a double demonstration has been made: the lack of an audience for the advocates of the strike movement, and their desire to spread disorder by all means available. New evidence of this is seen in the communique published in Paris by a "Defense Committee of Cultural Rights," which announced that the 10 members of the cultural collective at the University of Algiers, arrested last May (LE MONDE of 4 June) and still not put on trial as of this date, had begun on Saturday [26 September] a one-week's hunger strike at El-Harrach prison near Algiers. This information has been denied by the authorities.

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CSO: 4519/11

NEW MEASURES TO CONTROL DEPARTURES OF CITIZENS

Paris LE MONDE in French 29 Sep 81 p 5

[Article by Daniel Junqua: "Measures Taken to 'Guarantee Security and Dignity of Citizens Abroad'"]

[Text] Algiers--In the course of a recent cabinet meeting the government ordered a series of measures aimed at "guaranteeing the security and the dignity of citizens traveling abroad and preserving the good image of Algeria." The measures will be made public once an inter-ministerial committee created for the purpose will have decided on the measures for its application. The authorities no doubt will act in two directions: to control more strictly departures from the country and to ensure that Algerians leaving for foreign countries will legally have sufficient resources.

One of the first actions of President Chadli Bendjedid in April, 1979, was to cancel a particularly unpopular document: the authorization to leave the country, established in 1967 by President Boumediene. There is no question of placing this document back in effect, although for the last 3 years the increase in the number of departures was such that it raised difficulties with certain countries receiving Algerians, particularly Tunisia, Spain, and France. Air traffic with France increased during the past 2 years by 40 percent, and this tendency does not seem to be slowing down. The Airbus and the Boeings of Air France and Air Algeria take off daily, jam-packed from an airport which is chronically crowded, although it has been expanded in size.

In 1980 the different French airports received 1.4 million passengers coming from Algeria, the great majority of them Algerians, and in the reverse direction the figure is of the same order, which is explained by the presence in France of an Algerian immigrant community of nearly one million people. Most of the travelers are simply going to visit their families or their friends or to travel as tourists. However, others, less innocently, have the intention of finding a job or of settling more or less definitively in France. The coming of the French Left to power and the decision of the French authorities to regularize the situation of the illegal workers has aroused new interest in emigration from Algeria. The French Consulates receive hundreds of requests in this regard and can only respond in the negative, as the decision to put an end to all emigration was clearly made by the Algerian government since 1973 and by the French government since 1974. There are many people who directly try their luck by passing themselves off as tourists.

An Unsuitable Regulation

The border police must carry out a difficult classification of travelers. Still, recently, about 50 Algerians who tried to enter France through Switzerland were turned back. The French authorities, unwilling to take draconian measures themselves--establishment of a visa procedure, in addition to its disagreeable and arbitrary character, would risk affecting bilateral relations--no doubt have asked the Algerian government to take action on its own. The subject will apparently be on the agenda for conversations which Minister of the Interior Gaston Defferre will have on 30 September and 1 October in Algiers with his counterpart, Boualem Benhamouda.

The small allocation of foreign exchange--300 Algerian dinars¹ per trip and for each family member--made available to Algerians leaving for foreign countries constitutes another source of difficulty. The amount is insufficient, and the search for foreign exchange has become a national sport. Those who have the good luck to have relatives in France may have recourse to "compensation,"² often at heavy cost, since the exchange rate on the black market can reach 3 dinars for 1 franc. However, certain Algerian immigrants in France, tired of receiving in this way people who sometimes claim a distant relationship, refuse to accept them. Entire families may then find themselves out in the street. Young people, without any other alternative, "get along as best they may," the young men by theft, the young women by at times having recourse to the oldest profession in the world.

This behavior, the authorities feel, is of such nature as to damage the image of Algeria. Last summer some 800,000 Algerian tourists went to Tunisia. To save on their precious foreign exchange, young people slept out under the stars, in the middle of the city, on cardboard boxes. Entire families spent several days in their cars. Even better, imaginative heads of family brought their wives and children across the border, or eight or 10 people in all, gave them a sandwich for dinner and, when the night was over, brought them back to Algeria. In this way they kept the foreign exchange they had declared and found themselves ahead by F 3,000 or F 4,000, which let them go--but alone this time--to Spain or France.

The authorities want to put an end to all these practices by revising regulations which are largely outdated. The regulations could be oriented toward a "Tunisian" tape system, consisting in providing only once a year a considerably increased foreign exchange allocation, but which could, in case it is not used, be added to the allocation for the following year. The National Assembly on several occasions has debated the question and has called for measures in this direction. The government feared that their impact on the budget would be too heavy, but fraud is acquiring such proportions that the remedy adopted up to now seems worse than the disease.

The measures for the control and restriction of trips outside the country are more delicate to implement. At the beginning of the year instructions which were reportedly aimed at preventing young girls and women from leaving the country, unless they had an authorization from their fathers or their husbands, aroused very strong protests and were very quickly cancelled.

¹1 dinar = 1.30 French francs

²A system which consists in being taken in charge by a family in France, with repayment to be made in Algeria.

However, purely administrative regulations will only have a relative effect as long as the thirst for consumption is not satisfied on the part of a people who go overseas above all to buy goods which they do not find in Algeria. The authorities are perfectly aware of this and are trying to normalize the situation in this sense. The progress made over the last few months is unquestionable, and the shortages which were once a part of the daily scene have become rare. Efforts to stimulate local production and to improve the distribution networks and the quality of the services performed for the public are beginning to bear fruit.

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CSO: 4519/11

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

FLN DELEGATION MEETS FRENCH COMMUNISTS--An Algerian FLN delegation led by Sliman Hoffman, member of the Central Committee and charged with the foreign relations of the Party, was received at the headquarters of the French Communist Party, L'HUMANITE reported on Tuesday, 29 September. The newspaper states that the two parties "reaffirmed their determination to strengthen their cooperation on all questions of mutual interest," which tends to indicate that the dispute between the FLN and the PAGS (Algerian communists) (LE MONDE, 27-28 September) has not affected their relations.
[Text] [Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Sep 81 p 4] 5170

CSO: 4519/11

ISLAMIC GROUPS, STUDENTS TARGET OF ILLEGAL ACTIONS BY STATE SECURITY FORCE

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic No 61 May 81 pp 44-45

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd al-Qaddus: "Correction Movement Needs to Be Revised; Beware, Freedom Is in Danger"]

[Text] There is no doubt that what took place in May 1971 constituted the beginning of a fundamental transformation, considering that thousands of political prisoners, the overwhelming majority of them members of the Islamic groups, were released and that the country experienced a new era of relative freedom after destruction of the regime of terror that had been ruling Egypt. There is also no doubt that the primary beneficiaries of all this were those who had been exposed to repression and torture at the hands of 'Abd al-Nasir.

But after 10 years of the correction movement, we believe that this movement needs another fundamental correction. Freedom is endangered because of police practices, the war against the Islamic groups and the severe shackles imposed on public liberties.

We will discuss each of these negative aspects in some detail.

First, Activity of State Security Intelligence Is Incompatible With Supremacy of Law.

The first slogan raised by the May 1971 correction movement was the slogan of the supremacy of law. But state security intelligence agencies have not respected this slogan over the past 10 years and have continued to act with the mentality of the era of terror.

The proof of what I am saying is the vast number of innocent people arrested by the intelligence agencies and released by the prosecution and the judiciary for a lack of evidence against them. This number has exceeded 1,000 in 10 years.

Let Muslim lawyer 'Abdallah Salim speak to us in the language of figures and facts concerning the state security intelligence agencies' violations of the supremacy of law and their terrorization of the innocent:

1. The first violation of the supremacy of law was committed by state security intelligence forces against the Islamic group known as the Atonement and Migration

Group. In 4 years, beginning in 1972, 300 persons were arrested and were all released.

2. There was the case of the kidnapping and assassination of the late Shaykh al-Zahabi, a former minister of religious trusts. It is to be noted that this case was referred to the military judiciary, though it was outside their jurisdiction. This constituted a return to military trials and a setback for freedom. The number of people charged in this case was 54, and most of them were convicted. This has been the only case in which most of the defendants were convicted. This case was accompanied by another involving affiliation with the Atonement and Migration Group. The number of persons arrested in this case amounted to more than 234. It is noteworthy in this regard that for the first time since the correction movement of May 1971, state security intelligence people arrested a large number of women. The number of female detainees was more than 30.

More than 200 persons, including all the women, were released. The sentences against the others ranged from a 1-year prison term to a 6-month prison term.

3. Prior to the case of the late al-Zahabi, there was another case in 1974, known as the case of the Technical Military [College]. The court released half of the defendants arrested and referred the rest to the court for trial. The total number was 60 persons.

4. The case of the first Struggle Organization of 1978, in which state security intelligence agencies arrested more than 80 persons. This case was referred to the Alexandria military judiciary, which released more than half of the defendants.

Sentence of Not Guilty to All and Condemnation of Intelligence

5. The case of the second Struggle Organization, of 1979, in which the number of detainees totaled 134. They were all released when one of the defendants charged that the case was "rigged" by the Alexandria state security intelligence people and that the district intelligence inspector had asked him to gather his friends and give them the explosives that were seized.

6. Another case that shows the state security intelligence's violation of the supremacy of law is the 1978 case of al-Minya. The intelligence agencies notified the state officials that a student had been arrested carrying 500 pounds, which had been given to him by a foreign state as part payment to instigate riots.

It was proven that this charge was fabricated and false. All those arrested in the case were released (pending investigation of the case). The higher administrative court also instructed that 100 students who had been dismissed from the university on the instigation of the intelligence forces be reinstated and that they be given special examinations.

The second case of al-Minya, in 1980, the intelligence people tried to portray as one sectarian sedition. The intelligence forces arrested city youths indiscriminately, but all the detainees were released.

7. The case of al-Mansurah in 1979, in which the state security intelligence people arrested 13 religious youths on a charge of instigating opposition to the peace treaty with Israel. But nothing was proven against the youths and they were released.

8. The Asyut cases: Since 1978, state security intelligence forces have been trying to attack the city's Muslim youths, and the agencies did rig three cases against them. But all the defendants were released as soon as the investigations were completed. The governor of Asyut played a major role in restraining the city's state security intelligence forces.

9. The case of al-Tahrir [Liberation] Party in 1980, in which 8 people were arrested and released.

Role of Central Security

It is to be noted that the central security agency has also been used to hit at the Muslim youth. In Asyut, for example, this agency intercepted a peaceful demonstration by Muslim youths protesting Egypt's hosting of the former shah, the henchman of Iran. A violent clash erupted in which many people were injured and one person was killed. The Asyut University campus was violated and the security men clashed with the students who were protesting the erection of walls around and inside the campus. In Cairo, central security men entered the school of medicine to provide protection to workers demolishing the mosque in which the Islamic Group performed its religious rites.

General Observations

1. All the cases I have mentioned were accompanied by indiscriminate arrests of hundreds of Muslim youths by state security intelligence. But those youths were released a few days later.

This is why we say and stress that the number of innocent people thrown into jail by state security intelligence, and then released, exceeds 1,000.

2. It is to be noted that the overwhelming majority of those arrested are students in their twenties. It is also to be noted that many of them are high school students, as in the latest case in Alexandria in which 14 students, most of them under 18, were arrested and then released. What is amazing is that the case of the Atonement and Migration Group included a child who was not yet 10. He was arrested by the intelligence people and charged with being the group's courier. The court found him not guilty.

3. The acts of fabricating accusations against the Muslim youth were accompanied by accusations and ridicule levelled by the information media against the Muslim youth.

4. In the cases I have mentioned and in other cases, Muslim youths have accused the intelligence people of subjecting them to torture to force them to make false confessions.

Second, Need to Stop War Against Islamic Groups

Muslim youths will now speak to us about the violent war to which the Islamic groups have been subjected in the past 10 years.

Dr 'Isam [not further identified] says that this war has taken several forms, in addition to arrests and detention by state security intelligence forces. These forms are:

1. Abolition of Islamic groups in the universities and efforts to ban their activities.
2. Preventing the holding of Islamic camps.

To learn what has happened to the correction movement, it is enough to note that the first Islamic students camp was inaugurated by the minister of religious trusts, as the representative of the state. In 1980, central security forces were summoned in more than one place to break up the Islamic camps.

3. Rigging of student elections and striking out the names of candidates affiliated with the Islamic groups: In 1970, more than 70 percent of the candidates of the Islamic groups were struck out. Ten percent of the names struck out were again included after appeals. In 1980, 80 percent of the names of the candidates were struck out and most of the appeals were turned down (these figures pertain to the Cairo University School of Medicine).

4. Amendment of bylaws to paralyze the student union movement: In this respect, brother Khalid, the former chairman of the Union of the Cairo Students of Medicine, says:

In the past, the union chairman could organize a pilgrimage to Mecca costing more than 10,000 pounds and was solely accountable to the state for this pilgrimage. But now, in the wake of amendment of the bylaws, the chairman cannot spend any sum without extreme difficulty. All the projects set up by the Islamic groups, such as the Islamic uniform project, the allocation of special cars for female students, the sale of textbooks to students at low prices and the pilgrimage trips, are all threatened with termination.

The new bylaws have turned the students into a minority in their union, which is now controlled by professors and employees. Moreover, a college dean has the right to repeal any decision adopted by the student union.

Khalid adds: There is no good to be hoped from the paralyzed student unions and I advise my brothers to abstain from participating in the farce that the present unions represent.

Demands of Islamic Groups

Brother 'Abd al-Mun'im [not further identified] lists the demands, all fair and legitimate, of the Islamic groups:

1. Institute all forms of freedom for the Islamic groups.
2. This by necessity entails amendment of the current student bylaws, which paralyze the student movement.
3. Eliminate provocations of Muslim youths. These provocations take numerous forms, the most important being:
 - A. Violation of the university campus through the holding of lewd parties and the display of communist and licentious books in the fairs held at the universities.
 - B. Friction with the police and the activities of the state security intelligence forces.
 - C. Media dissemination of corruption, ridiculing of Islamic groups and distortion of the truth of these groups.

What Then?

The Islamic groups are being exposed to a physical war by the police agencies, to a psychological war by the information media and to a war by the state officials aimed at shackling their activity. If we can destroy these different forms of warfare against the Islamic groups, then the correction movement will have made great strides toward correcting the mistakes.

8494

CSO: 4504/95

'ACTS OF PIRACY' BY POLICE REPORTED; FULL INVESTIGATION DEMANDED

Cairo AL-DA'WAH in Arabic No 61 May 81 p 17

[Article: "Has the Era of Intelligence Piracy Returned?"]

[Text] Egypt witnessed an era in which the Egyptian citizen was violable and in which this citizen lost security over his life, his honor, his property and his religion. A Muslim man or woman used to be kidnapped from the middle of a public road and would disappear behind the sun, as it was said then.

The security agencies, especially the intelligence agency, played the role of the pirates of that era.

After the death of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, Egypt's tyrant, and after the new slogans of the state, of science and faith--such as the slogans on the supremacy of the law, democracy and a permanent constitution, which states that the Islamic shari'a is the main source of legislation--were raised, the Egyptian citizen came to believe that his life, his property and his honor were safe under the canopy of the law!

But it seems that the security agencies have resumed their acts of piracy against the citizens. At exactly 2130 on Sunday, 12 April 1981, while student Zahir Hasan Yusuf and his colleague, student Wajdi Muhammad 'Abd-al-'Al, were taking a walk, two private cars approached them and a group of armed civilians descended from the cars and asked the students for identification. When the students demanded to know the identity of the civilians, the latter refused and tried to push the two students inside one of the cars by force. But the two students resisted and one of the armed civilians hit student Zahir on his forehead with the butt of his rifle, causing a gaping wound. When the students desisted, they were put in the cars and taken along Salah Salim Road. The men blindfolded the students so that they wouldn't know where they were being taken. The men finally reached a place that the students couldn't recognize. The blindfolds were removed and the students were asked some questions about an officer living in the quarter in which they were taking a walk. When it turned out that the students had no useful information for the men, Zahir was taken to a military hospital where the wound was stiched. At 0330, the two students were released near their homes.

The question that we address to the president of the republic and to the officials of the state of science and faith is:

Have the security agencies renewed their acts of piracy against the citizens or what?

We are not publishing this report simply for the sake of publication; rather we demand an investigation meeting all the requirements of an open inquiry so that the people may see that security and the supremacy of the law are truly enacted.

8494

CSO: 4505/95

PUBLIC URGED TO REJECT NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

Cairo Al-DA'WAH in Arabic No 60, Apr 81 pp 4-7

[Article by 'Umar al-Talmasani: "Normalization of Relations With Jews Is Evil; Jews Have Invented Means of Deceptive Propaganda and Use Them To Spread Their Poison; Egyptian People Must Boycott Jews in Everything"]

[Text] Muslims implore God to save them from the evil devil time and time again every day and I advise them sincerely and honestly to ask God to protect them from the evil of the normalization of relations. I am influenced in this not only by human emotions and the Islamic faith; but faith, emotion, reason, logic and reality urge us all to implore God to protect us from this evil. This is why I am presenting the thoughts that have occurred to me regarding the dangers of this normalization. The dangers of normalizing relations between us and Israel include:

First, the normalization of relations and the persistence in this normalization will inevitably lead to a watering down of the serious determination to restore the Muslims' usurped right in the Palestinian issue, one of the Islamic world's problems.

Second, visitation and mingling are the path to familiarity between those mingling and create a degenerating and lax environment in which the presence of Jews among us and our getting used to seeing them among us in constant dealings will become a habit and our awareness of their crime of usurping our right and of the means they use to Judaize the entire area will die. Judiazation is damaging to the faith and is undoubtedly dangerous to the public interest.

Third, the Jews have been known for their instinctive persistence in spreading degeneration among all peoples of the world so that they may prevail. Normalization is one of the most effective means for them to attain what they want safely and securely.

Fourth, this danger is not confined to Muslim Egypt alone but spreads like an epidemic to all parts of the Islamic world because of Egypt's position in the eyes of all Muslims.

Fifth, Moral corruption is spread amongst us, from cabarets, wine-shops and white slave trade which certainly is endangering all values and principles.

Sixth, the Jews exploit those writers who sell their faith and dignity for a few dirhams. These writers hide behind the curtain of the Muslim names they carry or of freedom of expression to destroy everything good in us. They are armed with money, experience and hypocrisy while the Islamic call is obstructed by all the obstacles that bar its path.

Seventh, the infiltration of trained Jewish experts into all kinds of activities will cause these activities to fall to the abyss through the wickedest, basest and most secretive means.

Eighth, the publication of magazines, papers, books and cassettes under Muslim names: There is nothing more dangerous in influencing and guiding public opinion in a direction the enemies want, according to their whims.

Ninth, it is the Jews who have invented the means of deceptive propaganda and they are most capable of using them to spread their poison among the youth behind the mask of fighting alleged reaction and backwardness and various Islamic traditions.

Tenth, with their moral wickedness, their soft talk, their false and fatal friendship and their outward sacrifices, they win over the hearts of the ignorant and make them easy to exploit for their own purposes and not at all for the interest of the Muslims. They are not unlike a fatal poison hidden in layers of cake.

Eleventh, their skill in using money harms our economy gravely. The normalization has enabled them to infiltrate every sphere unhindered.

Twelfth, igniting the fires of division among the Egyptians themselves and among other Muslims, especially those who have not yet realized the dangers of normalization: Some Egyptians, both technicians and nontechnicians, have begun to host the Jews and to give parties for them. We can imagine how strongly this affects the hearts of the faithful and what degree of condemnation it generates against these turncoats. Thus, hostility erupts between one Egyptian and another and the gap between them widens with time.

Thirteenth, versatility in making usury look attractive by falsifying the various forms of usury: This is the very essence of financial and psychological destruction. Man loves money, especially if it comes through what appears to be a legitimate, but is actually an illicit, way.

Fourteenth, ultimately, with the passage of time and with this normalization taking root, Israel's position in Palestine will come to seem an ordinary one that merits neither condemnation nor any attempts to eliminate it. This will bring consequences that only God knows.

Fifteenth, does anybody imagine that the Jews can be normal and ordinary in their relations with any non-Jew? Of the followers of all religions, the Jews are the only ones who refuse to have anybody, regardless of his status, convert to their religion. Why do we try to stubbornly oppose the nature of things and the laws of this people's faith? This is an endeavor that can only end in abysmal failure:

"He who asks time to go against its nature asks water to give him fire,"

Sixteenth, normalization will bring us a definite slow death during which we will drink from the cup of humiliation. There is a vast difference between this death and dying or living in honor today.

Seventeenth, a year of the normalization hasn't passed and we now find that Israeli goods have spread through Egyptian markets in a manner that poses the gravest danger to our endeavors to revive Egyptian agriculture, commerce and industry. It is almost impossible for us to compete with the Jews in these spheres because of the ability and skill they possess and of the money that comes to them as free aid from every direction. They can withstand losses for years and until they destroy us economically. The field will be then be open to them and they will make up many fold for what they lose in the competition.

Eighteenth, with this ill-fated normalization, it becomes easy for Israel to infiltrate the sources of secrets, be they military, economic or political. Herein lies the great catastrophe that cannot be averted. They are the masters of intelligence, investigation and the pursuit of secrets in their hiding places. They were actually doing this in the past and they are doing it at present. But this horrible normalization makes available to them means that would not otherwise have been available.

Nineteenth, corrupting the big families, especially the families with influence in this country, with the fatal allurements they spread among fathers and sons and husbands and wives. These fathers and sons, husbands and wives become aware of the bitter spread of these allurements only after the catastrophe falls and spreads.

Twenty, there are lots and lots of other things that cannot be investigated and that the law does not allow one to deal with. What is hidden is still worse and "In God's hands shall the matter rest."

What Weapon Is this?

O people, can a just, lasting and comprehensive peace be established only by allowing the usurper to keep what he has plundered? What peace is this, regardless of our circumstances? It is not the Jews who have been able to get this far? The fault lies with us and the failure is our failure. Lack of awareness and indifference have been our lot, and squandering and negligence have been our condition. We have become resigned to no change. The continued existence of our information media as they are and without any change is the evil beyond all evil. Television especially doesn't promise the development of a generation concerned with its usurped rights.

This agency [television], which is steeped in harming the morals and the faith, will not prepare a generation that thinks of restoring all the rights, one after another, usurped from it. This agency, along with the other media that support the normalization catastrophe, will be the greatest help to Israel in realizing all it wants safely and securely and under the protection of the laws implementing the treaty.

The task of honest opposition, which builds and doesn't destroy and which advises and doesn't accuse, has become extremely critical for that sector of public opinion

that hates this normalization. Should this opposition turn a blind eye to this ominous evil? By virtue of its religion, this opposition cannot remain silent, regardless of the consequences. If we remain silent, we betray our manliness and if we speak frankly we anger and embarrass others. These are the two paths and we have no choice in following one of them.

We will denounce, protest and oppose and will raise the generations to fight this normalization. We will teach them to denounce this normalization as we teach them to read and write. We will mold them to denounce the normalization as we will impart to them honorable ethics. We will raise them to fight and detest the normalization as we will raise them to cling to the dictates of their religion and to the bases on which this religion is built. As long as our Islam demands this of us, then obedience to God is above all other obedience as far as we are concerned. Whoever hates this in us, then we can only tell him: "May our God judge rightfully between us and our people."

Opposition and Opposition

Isn't the government in a position to avoid these evil dangers and to restore reassurance to the hearts annoyed and frightened to see the Jews come and go freely in all parts of the country without any checks or controls and to see them disseminate division, sedition and exploitation wherever they go? This is a situation the citizens are not happy about. It is a condition that public interest does not approve and that the Islamic faith, for which we sacrifice in word and deed and with all we possess and all our strength--even if it is little, doesn't permit.

The Egyptian parties have accepted the treaty that has brought about this normalization. Even the parties that have condemned it outwardly, would approve it if given the chance to rule the country. Their condemnation is tantamount to selling out the interest of the homeland and the people. Only the Muslim Brotherhood has denounced the treaty that has brought about the normalization from the first day of the initiative, through Camp David and to the treaty itself. The Brotherhood's position remains unchanged and will remain unchanged, God willing. Let none of these parties think that we will support them if they go over to the opposition. There is a vast difference between our opposition and theirs. Our opposition is to the system of government; the opposition of others is to the person of the government. The Muslim Brotherhood is not concerned with the person of the ruler but sleeps and wakes thinking of the form and the constitution of the government, which have not changed or altered throughout the ages.

The germ of this scary epidemic was planted in our peaceful homeland and the government has accepted it and is protecting it with its troops and its might. Parties have been set up on the basis of this epidemic to give it an air of popularity and here the government's role has ended. What is the people's role? We know for certain that the overwhelming majority of the people condemns this horrible and fearful normalization. Demonstrations, slogans, conferences, articles, protests, strikes, sit-in strikes and accusations are all useless trivialities that do not cure the disease, that may be harmful and obstructive and that may even extinguish the fire that consumes the hearts and the souls. O people, there remains only action and serious action that bears fruit and that deals with the disease and destroys it before it kills the wounded and the afflicted.

Boycott the Jews in everything, in every sphere, in every direction and in every thought. Do not like them because they are tyrants, and do not receive them because they are corrupters. Make them feel unwanted. They are intruders and exploiters. They have not come to revive a friendship but to destroy homes. Harass them economically and socially. Boycott their goods and buy other kinds of goods, even at the most exorbitant prices and even if of a lesser quality. Teach them a lesson.

No matter how weak their condition seems, the Muslims have in their trust in their God that which will protect them from falling into the abyss of servility and submission. The Jews have come under the canopy of normalization to suck our blood economically, politically, socially and religiously. Teach them that we are above their perverted aspirations and their terrible goals. Dry these springs and prevent them from flowing where the Jews want them to. I do not say that "they will go" when they become certain that they have failed. Never. They will try again and again. But their endeavor will be a waste of time and effort. Meanwhile, God may bring us release from all this, and may he prepare the way for us to overcome our blunder if we cling to Him, work to please Him and hasten to seek His blessing.

The government, according to what we see and to the statements issued, is on the threshold of agricultural and industrial projects. Has this government prepared the means to prevent Israel from infiltrating these projects either to destroy them or to reap their fruits in its twisted and secret ways?

If we, both government and people, fail to prepare seriously to destroy all these goals which Israel has eagerly sought in this normalization--if we, both the government and the people, fail to carry out this duty, then the people will view the government in a way that doesn't please it and the government will view the people in a way that doesn't please them. Will this nation be pleased to see such a relationship of the people toward the government and of the government toward the people?

The president of the Egyptian Arab Republic has said that he is a Muslim and that he rules an Islamic country. This declaration requires from the president much that he is not aware of. With this logic we address the president and with this logic we oppose him.

Islam is unambiguous and obvious in this situation. God has purchased from us our souls, our property, our children and our kinsmen by promising us paradise. This is how we define our position. It is either this world or the hereafter. "He who ploughs for the hereafter, We shall make his crop abundant, and he who wants to plough for this world, we shall give him of the fruits of this world and he shall have no share in the hereafter"--this is an equation in which God's book decides clearly and definitively that "he who wants the passing world, then we shall give quickly in it what we want to whomever we want and we shall then lodge him in hell to suffer its fires condemned and defeated. He who wants the hereafter and seeks it faithfully, then his efforts shall be commended. Both these and those are given by God and God's giving is boundless. See how we have favored some over others. The hereafter is of higher status and is more favorable. Do not set up another god with God, else you shall end up condemned and defeated."

This is the advice of a Muslim who beseeches God to make his advice sincere and free of whims. It is the advice of a Muslim who hopes for good in this world and in the hereafter, who has never harbored evil and who has never slept a night with malice in his heart, even for somebody who has hurt him. It is advice through which he only seeks to please God. It is advice that I will not conceal and the consequences of which I will not think. Islam has taught us that there is no will besides God's will. I urge good works in whatever I can urge and warn of evil deeds in whatever I can think of. God is behind all purposes and goals and "he who does good deeds then he does so for himself, and he who commits evil commits it against himself. God is never unjust to man."

8494

CSO: 4504/95

INDEPENDENT ASSEMBLY MEMBERS MEET WITH MUBARAK

NC281800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1517 GMT 28 Oct 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Oct (MENA)-- President Muhammad Fusi Mubarak today received in al-'Urubah palace a delegation of the independent members of the people's assembly that included Counselor Mumtaz Nassar, Dr Ibrahim 'Uwwarah and Hamid Karim.

After the meeting Counselor Mumtaz Nassar state that the meeting with President Mubarak today was wide-ranging and dealt with all the subjects and issues of the hour which are of interest to the Egyptians and the country.

He said: We received full support from the president on all the bold national positions concerning justice and law.

Regarding the supremacy of the law, Counselor Nassar said: President Mubarak affirmed that he will carry out what was contained in his speech to the people's assembly in part and parcel and will fulfill all that he said in it and will achieve full cooperation between the opposition and the majority [party] so that Egypt can be as one man.

Counselor Nassar affirmed that President Mubarak's move, which he referred to in his speech and which he affirmed later--namely, not to attack any Arab state, is an indication of political maturity which prepares the suitable climate for the restoration of Arab solidarity. We advocate a return to Arab solidarity, and this solidarity will be restored by virtue of President Mubarak's efforts, he said.

He said that President Mubarak discussed with them some of the homeland's internal issues. His excellency affirmed to them that regarding the detainees, the investigation will be conducted very quickly through the socialist public prosecutor and that if no evidence is found against any individual, then that person will be released immediately; and if there is evidence about the involvement of any individual, then, that person will be brought to trial; their trial will be public, and they will have all the legal guarantees.

Counselor Mumtaz Nassar also said that during the meeting President Husni Mubarak emphasized the supremacy of the law and combatting deviation and indiscipline. He also affirmed that he is determined to eliminate the deviationists and we encourage him and support him in this with all means of support.

Counselor Muntaz Nassar was asked whether he discussed with President Mubarak a new formula for the opposition procedure at the people's assembly in the coming phase. He answered: We asked the president to discuss with us all the topics that concern the homeland and the citizens and to agree on these topics as long "as they serve the national issues"; and when these topics are submitted to the people's assembly, we must all be one hand and one view and that the opposition and the majority participate in the important national and fateful issues on which there must be one view.

Counselor Muntaz Nassar concluded his statement by saying that Egypt must be one man proceeding behind the president and that there should be no majority or opposition to any issue that serves the interests of the masses and the homeland.

CSO: 4504/54

EXPANSION OF RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA DISCUSSED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 24 Sep 81 pp 3, 17

[Excerpts] Several days ago a group composed of officials from the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Defense, several Majles representatives and Hojjatoleslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Speaker of the Majles, visited North Korea and Malaysia. Since, in view of the imposed war with Iraq, this visit had special importance, we asked brother Ahmad Tavakolli, Behshahr representative and member of the executive board of the Majles', to tell us about his trip for the information of an alerted nation. We present the text of the talk, with our gratitude, for the perusal of our dear readers.

[Question] What did you bring back from your recent trip to North Korea and your meetings with that country's officials, and what will be the actual effect of this group's trip on the course of our country's future policies with that country and other countries?

[Answer] It is very clear that the oppressive countries and the superpowers will be upset and angry over the fact that the Islamic revolution is making contact with other countries and is able to have relationships with the masses of the people. For this reason they have put all their efforts into depriving and isolating us since the beginning of the revolution. Unfortunately, due to our having had governments whose spirits were not in conformity with the genuine spirit leading the revolution, we have been deliberately unsuccessful in this to a certain extent, because the Imam's and the Islamic nation's idea of exporting the revolution was at variance with the idea held by our foreign ministries which were in power, which were from the National Front, branches of the Freedom Movement, or others. Unfortunately, after the seating of the government of the Revolutionary Council and the ousted Bani-Sadr, the efforts he made to control Iran's foreign policy created a situation where we had no Foreign Ministry until 3 months ago. Some time ago when I myself reviewed the situation in Iran's embassies on behalf of the Article 90 Commission, I saw how much we were being hurt by not having leadership and a Foreign Minister, how nameless we are, and, unfortunately, in some countries, how bad our name is. Granted, conveying messages is the task of all followers of the prophets, but in the past we were not only unsuccessful in this sending of messages, but in protecting the interests of our economy as well, which requires active relationships with other countries. We are establishing relationships with non-Moslem countries on the basis of Islam

and the Koran. The matter is clarified by this verse from the Koran which says "In our foreign relations God does not prohibit us from displaying good will or establishing just relations with those who do not quarrel with our religion, seek to deprive us of our land and resources, or back our enemies." This verse, which is actually reflected in the constitution, allows us to have active and friendly relations with countries that do not have an Islamic system but are ready to establish just relations with us with no imperialistic intent. On the basis of this principle, we have had the responsibility since the beginning of the revolution to establish active relations with all countries of this type, and to give many small countries, even the ones under superpower influence who are not overly obsequious of speech, the understanding that we support their independence and can help them. On the trip to Korea we studiously adhered to the idea that if we were going to establish this relationship we wanted to find a vast area of agreement. North Korea is a Marxist country which has not remained faithful to Marxism. It has adopted an ideology which they themselves characterize as a mixture of Marxism, humanism, and Korean nationalism which is much less inhuman than Marxism and more acceptable for working together, because it is based on freedom and independence for the people in countries. As a result they want to help all independent countries. We felt that there is true sincerity within this desire and that they have no imperialistic designs. We found an independent country there, and we consider the expansion of our relations with that country advantageous to our revolution and disadvantageous to world imperialism, even to Marxism, led by Russia.

Basic Principles of the Discussions

[Question] During the group's trip you probably had discussions with Korean and Malaysian officials. What issues came up in these discussions, and what are the impressions you have as a result of these discussions?

[Answer] Of course it is preferable to keep these two countries separate, because our position is different in each case, as was explained there, because one country is made up of nonbelievers and the other country is a country that at least accepts Islam on the surface and carries out a great many Islamic commands. We are thus dealing with two different forms of government. I will therefore first discuss North Korea, because we discussed matters in all areas with North Korean officials. We presented several principles there, inasmuch as in every relationship we have taken two or three points as basic principles, first that every economic relationship must be aimed at preserving the perpetual independence, the growth of independence, and the growth of the course of economic independence of these countries. Secondly, we must do all we can to see that this relationship is not one-sided, but rather one in which we meet one another's needs economically and otherwise so as not to be forced to turn to non-independent countries in order to obtain what we need. These principles, and another principle I don't recall now, were very acceptable to them, and, according to their beliefs, they have done this so far. The situation is such that we can give what we have to them and they can give what they have to us, and consequently what we need can be obtained through them, for in giving what we give we have no desire to obtain power over them, and in giving what they give, according to what they claim and the feeling that we have about the sincerity of their claim, and the impossibility of it from the standpoint of the policies they have, they also have no desire to obtain power

over us. We can expand these relations in all areas and profit from a great deal of their experience gained in 28 years of war and 35 years of revolution.

Preliminaries for Procuring an Agreement

[Question] Was a door opened for future discussions in North Korea or Malaysia that would lead to increased military and economic cooperation?

[Answer] First, we had a military group with us on the trip, and they followed up on military matters, that is an issue had previously been introduced and was pursued further. No agreement was finalized, of course, but naturally issues were raised which are the preliminaries for any kind of agreement. There were also very productive discussions pertaining to economics in which, of our group, several people from the Foreign Ministry and Mr Hashemi participated, and on their side an aide to the Prime Minister, the speaker of the Majles, and a great many of their economic officials participated and the preliminaries were set down for an economic agreement. The Koreans have worked mostly on self-sufficiency and have been successful. They have used methods in their agriculture which will be very useful for us. Mr Salamati, our Minister of Agriculture, has already visited there. Of their industrial methods--of course their industry is not very advanced, having gone so far as they themselves have been able to take it--we can also make use of some of their experience and some of their machines. Military matters were part of other talks in which we did not participate.

Consequently we can work with them a great deal in the field of agriculture, we can make use of their machines in the field of industry, and we in turn can help them by selling them oil. As for Malaysia, the visit was mostly one of friendship, and no sort of plan had been previously prepared. We also propounded this same principle of ours there, that we are trying to free our own economy, which was severely dependent, to assist with the freedom and independence of other countries, and that we prefer that this giving and taking of assistance be with Islamic countries first, and then with non-Moslem countries that are prepared to establish relations with us based on the principle of mutual respect.

Positions on Iran's Rights in the Imposed War

[Question] Another question was, in the Iranian group's visit to North Korea and Malaysia, to what extent did it discuss Iran's position in the imposed war?

In answer to this question, Mr Tavakolli said: In practice North Korea had taken a position favorable to us, because Iraq had cut its relations with North Korea some time ago because it had been giving aid to us in the war. Of course, considering the fact that our army was mostly equipped with American equipment, this assistance was not very extensive, but it was useful to us in any case. Furthermore, it was not difficult to explain the rightfulness of Iran's position in North Korea. At the same time, one night when we had dinner with Mr Kim Il-song, the leader of North Korea, Mr Hashemi Rafsanjani discussed our position from its anti-imperialist angle, noted that the pretense for the war was unfounded from the beginning, and pointed out how America helps Iraq through Jordan and through Saudi Arabia by sending AWACS. It has also helped by sending Soviet weapons from Egypt to Iraq. Mr Hashemi also mentioned American and Iraqi relations as illustrated

by Brzezinski . . . ting with the Iraqi Foreign Minister, and stressed the fact that this Iraqi attack began at the very time when America had been frustrated by a failed coup d'etat, direct military intervention in Tabas, and the unsuccessful efforts of counterrevolutionary elements domestically, and all of these things.

Mr Hashemi then explained Iran's position on intervention by Western and Eastern imperialism, and he categorically condemned Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. Kim Il-song, without naming any countries, also condemned military intervention and clearly acknowledged that Iran's position on the imposed war with Iraq is fully justified.

We approached matters from a different angle in Malaysia, because it is a Moslem country that believes in the Koran. Malaysian leaders expressed the hope that mediation groups would be able to prevent the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war. In response to this view Mr Hashemi said that we in turn had a question of our own. It was a question we have asked of many countries. Citing a verse from the Koran, he asked, when two Moslems begin a war, what is the responsibility of a Moslem nation such as yourselves? Is it not your duty to fight the invader?

Therefore, if you believe in the Koran, duty requires that you help us drive Iraq out of our country. If you study the case in international law, international law says that no country has the right to invade another country, and therefore if your position is based on international law, it is also your duty to condemn Iraq, and you have not done this.

[Question] In conclusion, in visiting these two countries, considering the presence of officials from the Ministry of Defense and the Foreign Ministry in the group, were any practical results forthcoming from this journey or not?

Mr Tavakolli answered: In North Korea a transcript of the talks was prepared and signed by both sides saying in what areas we could cooperate economically so that later economic groups from the two countries could meet officially and arrange to sign agreements. We were also given brochures in Malaysia and I was given the task of exchanging views with our brother the Minister of Commerce in Tehran in order that he would have a sufficient amount of information on this. It is necessary to remember that in North Korea and Malaysia we do not have political representation and for this reason it was decided to procure property in these two countries so we can erect buildings and operate embassies.

9310

CSO: 4640/10

FOREIGN TRADE DEVELOPMENTS REVIEWED

Ships Bought from Greece

Tehran BURS in Persian 19 Aug 81 p 3

[Article: "Six Merchant Ships with 35,000 Ton Capacity Bought from Greece"]

[Text] With the purchase of six cargo ships Iran's shipping capacity will increase from 1.7 million tons to 3.5 million tons per year. In an exclusive interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY, Dr Mohammad-Taqi Banki, the assistant director of the planning and budget organization, explained the trip of an Iranian delegation to Greece and the reasons for purchasing cargo ships.

He said: After the necessary investigations and having taken into account the yearly import of 10 million tons of goods to the ports of the country, the general headquarters for economic mobilization--which came into existence after the beginning of the war imposed by Iraq on Iran with the aim of mobilizing economic resources in face of the economic blockade and the limitations of war--decided to increase the 1.7 million ton shipping capacity of the Islamic Republic. It was for this purpose that, after the final investigation, an Iranian delegation composed of the executive director of the shipping company, representatives of the ministry for economic and financial affairs, the planning and budget organization and the Bank Markazi of Iran, and three captains--all of whom possessed full power to represent their respective organizations--went to Greece in order to carry out the plan approved by the general headquarters for economic mobilization, a plan which had been proposed by the shipping company of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Concerning the method of purchase of the cargo ships, the assistant director for political affairs of the planning and budget organization, who himself represented his organization in the delegation, said: On this trip the delegation made a cash purchase of six cargo ships that had been built by the Hitachi shipbuilding company of Japan and sold to a Greek company. The total capacity of these ships is 35 thousand tons. With the entrance of these ships into the country's ports, the shipping capacity of the Islamic Republic of Iran will increase from 1.7 million to 3.5 million tons per year.

According to international standards, every country must undertake the transport of one-half its ocean-borne import capacity by itself.

Concerning the date of delivery of the ships he said: The first of these cargo ships is now being delivered in one of the ports of Europe. It is hoped that within 2 1/2 months time the rest of the ships will also be placed at the disposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Mr Banki added: These ships were purchased for a total price of \$110 million, ten percent of which was deposited in a bank as a guarantee of the purchase. If the Islamic Republic of Iran should abandon the purchase, the down payment will be placed at the seller's disposal.

Concerning other discussions of the Iranian delegation with officials of the Greek government the assistant director of the planning and budget organization said: During this trip barter transactions between the two countries were discussed. During two meetings with officials of the Greek ministries of commerce, industry and energy, the Iranian delegation proposed that the government of Iran would like to trade with that country by selling the equivalent amount of oil in exchange for receiving a package composed of the presentation of services for and the selling of ships. This proposal was favorably received by the Greek officials and it was concluded that after the final investigation and study of this matter, the necessary decisions will be taken.

Figures for Quarter Imports

Tehran BURS in Persian 9 Sep 81 p 3

[Article: "In the First Four Months of the Current Year, 5.09 Million Tons of Goods with the Value of 412.8 Billion Rials Have Been Imported. Compared to the Corresponding Period, Imports Have Increased 26.4 Percent in Value."]

[Text] The indicator for the figures on imports and exports shows that the value of the goods imported into the country during the first quarter of the current year increased 3.65 times over the corresponding period in the year 1974-1975, while the value of exported goods increased 1.13 times.

According to the report of the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the detailed report for the figures on the country's exports and imports during the first quarter of the year 1981-1982 has been published.

According to this report, the statistics for exchange during the first quarter of the year 1981-1982 demonstrate that the level of imports reached 5.09 million tons of goods. Compared to the 4.57 million tons of the corresponding period last year, these imports have increased by 11.2 percent. The value of the imported goods during this same period reached 412.8 billion rials. In comparison with the amount of 326.5 billion rials for the corresponding period last year, the increase is 26.4 percent. In the period covered by the report the following were among the most active customhouses in the area of the tonnage of licensed goods, since their volume represents 86.4 percent of the total imports of the country during the reported period: The customs of Bandar Khomeyni with the licensing of 1.6 million tons of goods, or 31.4 percent of all imports; the customs of Bandar 'Abbas, with the import of 1.37 million tons of goods, or 26.9 percent of all imports; the customs of Jolfa with the import of 663,000 tons of goods, equivalent to 13 percent of the total; the customs of Tabriz with 260,000 tons or approximately 5.1 percent of the total; the customs of Bandar Bushehr with

202,000 tons or about 4.0 percent of the total; and the customhouse of Bandar Anzali and [the import of] foodstuffs, each with more than 150,000 tons or approximately 3.0 percent of the total. In addition, concerning stocks of goods in warehouses, it is observed that at the end of the above-mentioned period 1,363,954 tons of goods were being kept in the warehouses of the 13 major customhouses of the country. Of this figure, the amount of 308,828 tons or 22.6 percent was in the customs of Bandar 'Abbas, 275,011 tons or 20.2 percent in the customs of Jolfa, 232,574 tons or 17.1 percent in the customs of Tabriz, 137,178 tons or 10.1 percent in the warehouse of the customs of Bushehr and 119,199 tons of goods or 8.7 percent of the total in the warehouse of the customs of [Bandar] Khomeyni.

In the same way, the level of non-petroleum exports of the country during the period reached a total of 91,900 tons with a value of 13.2 billion rials. Relative to the same period last year this represents a 57.8 percent decrease in weight and a 45.0 percent decrease in value. From the standpoint of value, among the main export items in this period were first, hand-woven woolen carpets with a total value of 6.94 billion rials; and then various kinds of skins with a total value of 1.51 billion rials; small, large and green raisins with a value of 946 million rials; whole and shelled pistachios with a value of 577 million rials; various kinds of casings with a value of 443 million rials; and other kinds of metal ores with a value of 426 million rials.

The share of the above-mentioned items relative to the total amount of non-petroleum exports was as follows: Carpets, approximately 52.7 percent of the total value; various kinds of skins, 11.4 percent; raisins, 7.2 percent; pistachios, 4.4 percent; various kinds of casings, 3.4 percent; and other metal ores, 3.3 percent. The changes of the above-mentioned figures in terms of value relative to the corresponding period last year have been calculated respectively as follows: Carpets, 59.6 percent decrease; various kinds of skins, 149.3 percent increase; raisins, 262.5 percent increase; pistachios, 4.2 percent decrease; various kinds of casings, 17.5 percent decrease; and metal ores, 181.4 percent increase.

At the same time, during the period under report, because of special political and climactic conditions, the usual export of a few items was negative. These include cotton and linter, dried apricots, fresh fruits, licorice root, caviar, shrimp, chromite, tiles, ceramics and chinaware, woolen cloth, varieties of thread, cookies and candy, prepackaged and specially prepared medicines, ammonia, oxygen and the rare gases of the metalloids included in row 28.04 of the tariff, laundry detergent and soap, vehicle tires, aluminum ingots, electric iceboxes, coolers, hot water heaters, gas lamps, various kinds of space heaters, electric fans, electric lightbulbs, dry batteries and cattle, sheep and goats.

In this period, the following can be listed as among the most active customhouses in the country from the standpoint of the level of non-petroleum exports in terms of value: The customs of south Tehran, 5.1 billion rials; the customs of Mehrabad, 5.0 billion rials; the customs of Jolfa, 993 million rials; the customs of Bandar 'Abbas, 605 million rials. For during the period being reported, these customhouses encompassed a total of 88.0 percent of the non-petroleum exported goods of the country.

Tobacco Exports to Gulf

Tehran BURS in Persian 9 Sep 81 p 2

[Article: "The Equivalent of 400 Million Rials of Tobacco Has Been Exported to the Countries on the Shore of the Persian Gulf."]

[Text] Iran's tobacco has been recognized as the best in the world. The production of tobacco in the current year will reach the environs of 20,000 tons. Interest-free loans paid out to tobacco farmers have reached about 700 million rials in the current year. With the export of 270 tons of tobacco to the countries of the Persian Gulf region last year, approximately 400 million rials in foreign currency entered the country.

Yesterday in an exclusive interview with the reporters of the PARS NEWS AGENCY Engineer Hoseyn Honarbakhsh, the president of the directing board and the managing director of the Iran Tobacco Company, announced the above matters. At the same time he declared: Before the revolution, the Tobacco Company produced about 12 to 13 billion cigarettes a year in its factories. A part of this production was also made up of domestically assembled Winstons, while the rest of the country's consumption was imported directly from foreign--especially American--companies in the form of already manufactured Winstons. He added: The level of the manufacture of tobacco products within the country had diminished rapidly, such that the level of tobacco production in 1978-1979 reached 8,600 tons. This yield was not even sufficient for the amount consumed by one year's domestic production. The warehouses of the Tobacco Company were severely empty and in need of the purchase of foreign tobacco. Then Honarbakhsh alluded to the activities of the Tobacco Company after the victory of the revolution. He said: After the victory of the authentic Islamic revolution, basic changes were made in the programs of the Tobacco Company so that it could reach the level of self-sufficiency. With the approval of the general assembly of the company these steps were followed through and satisfactory results were achieved. The level of tobacco production, which was about 8,600 tons in 1978-1979, reached 12,066 tons in 1979-1980 and 16,983 tons in 1980-1981. In the year 1981-1982, this level will reach approximately 20,000 tons. In reality, the level of tobacco production will have increased 2 1/2 times. In the case of the planting of tobacco also, the level of yield was between 1000 and 1500 tons. This figure has increased to 6000 tons and as a result the level of production has been multiplied four times. In the case of pipe tobacco also, the level of production has increased a small amount. Then Honarbakhsh said: As a result, the program of reaching the level of self-sufficiency in tobacco will continue, God willing, with constant perseverance. It is hoped that in the coming years also the level of tobacco production will increase and that, with God's help, the possibility of exporting this output will be gained. Honarbakhsh added: Last year 270 tons of tobacco were exported to the countries of the Persian Gulf region. This level of exports took place at a very reasonable price. In this way approximately 400 million rials in foreign exchange entered the country. I am hopeful that with perseverance, this level of exports will increase and that we will reach more markets. Then Honarbakhsh said: Iranian tobacco has been recognized as one of the best in the world. He added: In order to reach the environs of self-sufficiency, the Tobacco Company has undertaken many-sided assistance to farmers, such that their income has

increased remarkably. He said: In 1977-1978 tobacco leaves were purchased from the farmers at the rate of about 150 rials per kilo, but with the approval of the officials the price increased to 235 rials. In the same way the average purchase price of tobacco, which in 1978-1979 was about 85 rials per kilo, increased in 1980-1981 to 129 rials. Honarbakhsh said: In order to assist tobacco farmers more, in 1981-1982 interest-free loans of approximately 700 million rials have been paid out to them. Concurrent with these loans, the technical assistance of the Tobacco Company experts has been increased on a national level; and chemical fertilizers and the necessary pesticides have been turned over to the tobacco farmers on a wide scale. Parallel to this assistance advances have been paid to them.

Then Honarbakhsh said: In 1980-1981 approximately 60 research projects were carried out by the three research centers of the company. Seven of these experimental projects reached definite results and were communicated to the executive units of the company. He added: Last year approximately 5 billion rials were paid to farmers for tobacco and hookah tobacco crops. The net income of farmers in deprived and isolated areas has increased more than three times relative to past years. This amount has been very effective in improving their living conditions and their village economy. Honarbakhsh said: It is necessary to explain that the tobacco bought from farmers is sorted in the factories.

9831

CSO: 4640/7

MULTINATIONALS REACT TO ABROGATION OF ATOM AGREEMENT

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 16 Sep 81 p 13

[Interview with Reza Amrollahi, chief of the Iranian Atomic Power Stations]

[Text] In an interview conducted by the PARS NEWS AGENCY, Reza Amrollahi, chief of the Iranian Atomic Power Stations gave background information concerning the contract for the Bushehr Atomic Power Station, cancellation of the contract, failure to deliver equipment and parts and a claim for damages by the German multinational firm.

He began by referring to the history of the contract for the Bushehr Atomic Power Station and said: The contract for the construction of the plant was signed with the German firm of Kraft Werk-Union, which is a multinational corporation, in 1355 [21 Mar 76-20 Mar 77] but after the revolution studies conducted by University experts and nuclear energy specialists showed that while the formal cost of the project was set at 7.8 billion marks, Iran was also obligated to draw up other side contracts which would involve amounts greatly in excess of that figure.

After due consideration, therefore, and approval of the Revolutionary Council the contract was cancelled because the project cost was not only double or triple the international rates but there were other difficulties such as special linkage concerning fuel supply, undetermined resistance level of the power station against earthquake, the high cost of electricity supplied from the power station and environmental issues. During the Islamic Revolution the contracting firm of Kraft Werk-Union tried to suspend the pact and acted to cancel the contract with Iran, and went to the arbitration tribunal in Paris, demanding the payment of 1.7 billion marks by Iran as damages. Amrollahi added: The tribunal has held sessions so far to look into the dispute between Iran and the contracting firm. The latest session took place last week in Geneva with the main issue on the agenda concerning the power plant's equipment and parts which at present are being held abroad. According to the contract, such equipment and parts should have been delivered to Iran before the revolution. The contracting firm has been responsible for the delay in delivery.

Failure to Deliver Purchased Parts

Moreover, according to technical calculations of experts, the value of equipment purchased by Iran but still with the contractor and not yet delivered is 1.5 to 1.7 billion marks but the contracting firm wants to refund 150 to 160 million marks for them.

The acting chief of atomic power stations added: Of course according to the contract, Iran has no commitment toward the contracting firm unless and until all equipment is unloaded at ports and complete deliveries are made to power stations. On the basis of the reasons mentioned, Iran has asked for a refund of the money it has paid.

Amrollahi concluded by saying: Of course the Atomic Energy Organization has so far tried to make the best use of facilities and machinery available at the power station in Iran. With this in mind, major items have been dispatched to various parts of the country for use in completion and implementation of development projects. This has been done with the cooperation of representatives from the ministry of energy, reconstruction crusade and the Atomic Energy Organization.

5854

CSO: 4640/9

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO EXAMINE DRAFT OF LAND REFORM BILL

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 9 Sep 81 p 11

[Text] Types of Lands in the Bill

- a. Uncultivated and pasture
- b. Cultivated by individuals or companies
- c. Neglected
- d. Tended

The Islamic Land Reform Bill has nine articles, six clauses and one glossary.

For the sake of actualizing the goals and objectives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and carrying out fundamental programs for the well-being of the oppressed members of society, the Islamic Land Reform Bill is one of the most important and vital programs which must be followed through.

The text of this bill, which has already been confirmed by Ayatollah Montazeri, Ayatollah Meshkini and the martyr Dr Beheshti, was also approved by the Revolutionary Council in Farvardin 59 [zimar-20 April 1980]. With the addition of three clauses to article 4 of the bill, it has now been presented for approval to the council of ministers so that, after study by the council, it may be presented for final approval to the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

In order to provide further information, the complete text of the bill, along with the changes which have been made in it, is presented exclusively to our dear readers.

In a like manner, from now on because of the importance of solving the problem of land, the economic service of ETTELA'AT newspaper will print the different views of villagers, specialists and agricultural experts concerning the points and aspects of the bill, in the hope that this step may be useful in the course of a careful and many-sided study of the plan.

The Letter of the Minister of Agriculture

The text of the letter of Mohammad Salamati, minister of agriculture and rural development, to the advisory minister for executive affairs for the sake of sending the bill to the Islamic Consultative Assembly is as follows:

The honorable Mr Behzad Nabavi, advisory minister for executive affairs.
For your information:

The legal bill, "Reform of the Legal Bill for Allocating and Reviving Lands in the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran," approved on 20/6/58 [16 September 1979] and signed and confirmed by the Ayatollah Dr Mohammad Beheshti, the honorable Ayatollah Montazeri and the honorable Ayatollah Meshkini, and approved by the Revolutionary Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran in a session dated 26/1/59 [15 April 1980], in practice met with a certain amount of unclarity in regards to determining the value of the investment.

It is now necessary to add three clauses as clauses 4, 5 and 6, under article 4. For this reason, this legal bill, which has had three clauses added to it and has been typed as it was, has been presented for your information in the enclosure. It is requested that you instruct that it be sent to the Islamic Consultative Assembly for ratification.

Mohammad Salamati, minister of agriculture and rural development.

The Text of the Bill

Article 1. The lands covered in this law are of four types:

- a. Uncultivated lands and pastures.
- b. Lands which have been cultivated by individuals or companies and which a competent Islamic court has decreed should be reclaimed.
- c. Neglected lands which had once been tended and which, according to the standards of the previous regime, were considered as the property of individuals or institutions.
- d. Tended lands.

Article 2. The lands of paragraph "a" and paragraph "b" are under the control of the Islamic government. The government has the duty, while taking into account the best interests of society and the dimensions of the need and the ability of individuals, to allocate the utilization of these lands to individuals or companies; or, in instances where the best interest of society demands it, to set them apart for public works.

Concerning the lands in paragraph "c", taking into account the rules which will be mentioned concerning the lands of paragraph "d", first the government will give priority to the owners of these lands to develop them, and if they do not take action, it will take the lands under its own control in order to allocate their cultivation and utilization to qualified individuals.

Article 3. Whenever the owner establishes facilities in these types of lands the following steps will be taken:

- a. Agricultural facilities: Concerning these facilities, if the owner makes actual use of them, that part which he uses will remain in his control, taking

into account the limits which will be mentioned concerning the lands of paragraph "d". The remainder of the facilities will be put in the control of other farmers. But if he makes no actual use of them, all of them will be put in the control of other farmers. In any case, the price of that which is put in the control of others will be paid to him, after deducting the owner's debts to the public treasury, as well as religious and other dues.

b. Other facilities, which are not directly related to agriculture, such as private homes, nonagricultural technical workshops, animal farms and the like: These types of facilities and their land remain for the locality.

Article 4. Concerning the lands of paragraph "d", if the owner is personally using the land for agriculture, up to three times the size determined by the locality will remain in his control for securing his family's livelihood. If he is not personally using the land for agriculture and he does not have another source of income which is sufficient for providing for himself and his family, only up to twice the mentioned amount will remain in his control. Concerning the remainder, in places where farmers do not own agricultural land and who cannot be made owners of agricultural land except by way of taking the excess land from landowners, the landowner's duty is to allocate the excess land of the mentioned amount to this kind of farmer. If he does not carry out his duty voluntarily, in accordance with the Islamic rules, the land will be taken from him by the order of a judge and placed in the control of needy farmers. The government will pay the price of the investment to the owner, after deducting his debts to the public treasury.

Clause 1. In the case where, in or near the locality, lands of paragraphs "a", "b" and "c" should exist, first these lands will be given to the farmers. If these lands are not sufficient, then it will be done according to paragraph "c".

Clause 2. Lands connected to animal farms for the production of fodder are not included in this article.

Clause 3. Mechanized agricultural units, the division of which would result in a decrease in production, must not be done. It is necessary for them to be allocated to farmers through cooperatives.

Clause 4. Investment, which is the subject of this article consists of the value of all the expenditures which the owner, owners or legal occupants have borne for developing and cultivating the land from the stage of noncultivation to reviving it, with the exception of the value of the facilities, machinery and buildings.

Clause 5. The value of the facilities, machinery and buildings will be evaluated and computed separately.

Clause 6. The rules for determining the price of the investment and computing the value of the facilities, machinery and buildings, the subject of clauses 4 and 5 of this article, will be determined by a board composed of representatives chosen by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the reconstruction crusade and the Ministry of Justice located in the general headquarters

for allocating the land, the subject of article 7 of this law. These rules will be presented to the council of ministers by the minister of agriculture and rural development and after ratification they will be enforced.

Article 5. The board in charge of allocating the land:

The matters mentioned above will be carried out by means of a seven-member board, and no one else will have any right of interference. The composition of the seven-member board: The board will be composed of the following representatives:

1. Two representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. One representative of the Ministry of State or of the governor-general of the locality.

One representative of the reconstruction crusade.

4. Two representatives of the people of the village confirmed by the representative or the judge.
5. One representative of the religious judge and guardian.

The duties of the seven-member board:

1. Analyzing and settling disputed cases related to the enforcement of this law (in case of disputes, only the view of the representative of the religious judge will be taken into account).
2. Allocation of land, taking into account the articles of this bill.
3. Discerning worthiness, the extent loans should be made use of, and agricultural possibilities during the course of enforcing this law.

Article 6. The rules for allocating land:

In allocating land, preference will be given to villagers without land or with little land, graduates in agriculture, and those interested in agricultural work, in that order.

2. The allocation of the utilization of the land is for a determined period (a number of years), taking into account the particular conditions of the region. In case of a satisfactory operation, the allocation of the land will be extended.
3. The allocation of land may be in the form of a company, a cooperative or an individual, which is the responsibility of the seven-member board.
4. The land must not remain idle without an acceptable excuse.

5. The operation carried out on the land must be of a kind which does not ruin it.
6. Allocated land may not be transferred, unless permission is obtained from the government and the standards contained in the article on transfers are observed.
7. Land cultivation must take into account the needs of society.

Article 7. The responsible party for enforcing this law:

The Ministry of Agriculture has the duty to form a general headquarters in Tehran for enforcing this law. It will be composed of:

1. A fully empowered representative of the religious judge and the religious guardian.
2. A fully empowered representative of the Ministry of Agriculture.
3. A fully empowered representative of the Ministry of Justice.
4. A fully empowered representative of the Ministry of State.
5. A fully empowered representative of the reconstruction crusade.

Article 8. All laws opposed to this law are abrogated.

Article 9. This legal bill supersedes the legal bill for the reform of the legal bill concerning the manner of allocating and reviving lands in the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran ratified on 11/12/58 [2 March 1980].

Glossary

1. Neglected lands: Lands which were formerly used but, by reason of abandonment or lack of utilization without an acceptable excuse, have remained unused for 5 consecutive years.
2. Tended lands: Lands which have been revived and continuously unutilized; other than the above lands, lands which in one way or another were nationalized by the former regime (lands which came to be owned by the state for the sake of the environment, hunting preserves and prevention of a bad climate).
3. Uncultivated lands: Unimproved lands which were not formerly revived and utilized and which have remained in a natural state.
4. Fallow lands: Tended lands which are periodically left uncultivated for a specified period according to the practice of the locality.
5. Investment: The developmental cost of the person who has brought the land under cultivation.

MOJAHEDIN MOCKED FOR RECENT OPERATIONAL TACTICS

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 17 Sep 81 pp 1, 19

[Text] Mojahedin-e Khalq has ordered the burning of double-decker buses, considering them symbols of class society!

As our readers know, the new movement of the counterrevolutionary front has entered a new phase in which it divides its supporters who are mostly under 18, into groups of 10 and 20 and sends them to predetermined points in the city.

These aspects--such as point of departure, route, destination as well as procedures for gathering and fleeing are scrutinized and determined beforehand. A number of persons, either on foot or riding, constantly check the route, estimate the distance or the proximity of demonstration headquarters or committees with the places in mind and calculate how best to get them quickly to the scene of riot and disturbance. They familiarize themselves with uncrowded streets and escape routes, a procedure which, particularly after the disgraceful flight of the organization's leaders (Mo'ezzi, Bani-Sadr, and Rajavi) has become a new strategy of its members and supporters.

They arm some of the kids who are in the first rank and must fight at the head of the front, put cocktails, bottles and flammable materials in the pockets of others who are on a somewhat lower level and entice 16 or 17 others with candy to follow their caravan! Thus they carry their stock of arms from fear even though they have already polished up their escape procedure.

They march a short distance and as a good ending they burn whatever they can lay their hands on: shops, Vahed transit buses, Qods Supermarket, people, cars. Then while hammering on doors and walls they put their escape plan into effect and get out of the arena unharmed.

All this is adventure, glory of conquest and Rajavi's Qadesiyyeh ['Waterloo'--reference to a Persian-Arab battle of yore] as it is Saddam's. But why are the Mojahedin'e Kalq doing this? What have they discovered anew and what have they come into?!

First of all it is characteristic of militia to become issue conscience when it is idle and its head begins to work. Contradictions in the theoretic and practical line of Mojahedin-e Khalq are so great that if you stop from using this hammer on

the head of the militia its elephant immediately begins dreaming of India. This is the beginning of difficulties, especially since these days the organization does not have time for ideological work and as the saying goes it has entered a military phase!!

It is therefore necessary not only to keep the militia constantly busy but also to keep the need for variety in mind. The first, the second, the third and the fourth bombs that exploded in this mosque, that office, this room or that street did not produce any result and those 80 percent of the population who are supposedly all for the Mojahedin and Bani-Sadr did not show interest in their heroic actions! Living in group hideouts, crawling in holes, lack of communication combined with constant fear and the daily receipt of news concerning the discovery of group hide-aways, arrests and executions (as retaliatory punishment for murder, declaration of armed war, acts of terror and bombings) gradually embarrasses and tires out supporters, especially supporters of a type of its militia who have been inflated to importance by deception, lies and publicity stunt!

From times past the Mojahedin has taught and practiced the principle that its supporters must always be kept busy in confrontations and if they were no problems at a given moment, situations must be created to keep them involved. They believe this would always cause the individuals to develop through action and contradiction! At the same time this would avoid idleness that could create petty bourgeois tendencies, and give rise to unnecessary and useless questions! (Of course the second reason has been more on their mind.)

So by pulling the militia out of its hole and putting it into streets and thoroughfares, even for a short period, is to keep it busy and create variety in work. This is a ruse to prevent him from poking his nose into the affairs of seniors in the organization and to prevent such and such verbal tendencies to develop in him.

And finally their excellencies have put their heads together with Mo'ezzi and Don Quixote in Kazem Khan's villa and come to the conclusion that 80 percent of the Iranian people 'support us and are dedicated to us.' Eleven million in one bunch belong to the 11-million-dollar man. Of course this figure must have doubled by now. Seven or eight million, too, are supporters of the militia and sympathizers of the organization, and this also has increased two or threefold. Mo'ezzi for sure has millions of followers who are enamored of his cute and favor-seeking doings in flying to safety deposed kings and presidents during two or three successful flights.

In answer to why 80 and 90 percent of the nation stood by while the president was deposed and later took to France along with the head of his vanguard organization, the three brains have come up with the conclusion that a climate of terror was the obstacle in the way! That this climate must be eliminated by arming supporters and pulling them into the streets. The people want to come out and fight to topple the regime but are afraid. They must now see for themselves that we use arms, kill and set fires. Such acts which remind the people of the past and incite them to repeat past struggles can best be carried out by the trained and assinine hole crawling militia. As long as we are sitting here, they should be put to the sword. This will solve our problem as well as theirs!

Now let us see what advantage these gentlemen hope to gain by this means in reaching their objectives.

Mojahedin'e Khalq's first objective may be a resort to expediency. But its second objective is one which is unachievable no matter what support may be sought. The result may even be the opposite. Masses of the people are not the militia who can be caused any suffering and dragged into any cave.

Your small mistake is in mixing the present with the time of the shah and the tactics you put into effect are unfortunately outdated and blunted. You are like the illiterate 'Excellency Sir' in one of the stories of Aziz Yasin where somebody else writes his speeches. Asked to make a speech at a wedding ceremony he pulled out of his pocket an old speech he had read at the opening of a railroad and appealed to the guests, among other things he said, not to litter and damage when trying to get on the train. Realizing his mistake from the amazed look of the guests, he fetched out an even older speech from another pocket and began an eloquent reading of the speech he had made before garbage men and sweepers at the opening of the municipal comfort stations a few months back!!!

Gentlemen, what has come over you? Do you think people are the same as during the shah's regime when vanguard groups used military tactics to promote a climate of fear and encouraged the people to join them. Not to mention the fact that in those days also, you failed and the people actually came out two or three years after your vanguard groups had been defeated and dispersed and had fled the scene. Yes, even today there are those who would put you into the streets and express support. But they are the same people who would sweep you away at the first sound of 'Long Live Khomeyni.' Those who yesterday took to the streets to shout 'Death to the Shah,' 'Greetings to Khomeyni,' were wounded and repeated their acts. They are the same ones who today shout 'Death to hypocrite troublemakers,' 'Death to the U.S.,' and 'Greetings to Khomeyni.' As to your glories, suffice it to say that you have not said 'Death to the U.S.' in a single one of your demonstrations.

What nation do you expect to follow you into the fury of battle because of fire-crackers you put into the hands of a bunch of young people with youthful needs and a spirit of adventure? Have you been blind during funeral ceremonies? Can't you see where the deprived masses are?

Of course you are right in one instance. There are the affluent, pleasure-seeking antirevolutionaries, those slapped by the Islamic revolution, those connected with the U.S. and the American way of life who expect you to even out the road for them. But they are the type that seek to rent 10 "ratholes" at the sound of a gun. They are with you so long as they can look and watch from the window.

In the latest writings and analyses in MOJAHED you have tried to prove by the presentation of detailed comments, documents and papers as well as by recourse to historic law and geography and by swearing on the head of Holy 'Abbas that the people are for Bani-Sadr and the irreconcilable enemy of reaction, that the religious establishment is undergoing a major historic test and is fast moving toward being isolated and eventually destroyed! You used to promise that soon the people would hang the heads of religious personalities from atop scaffolds and made similar inciting comments. There can only be two possibilities: either your

assessments have been rubbish or else the people are cowards, and are incapable. You must accept one of these possibilities.

You did not merely speak of dissatisfactions of the people but said they were deeply dissatisfied and deeply angry. You said it is like the shah's time and that the people were ready to rise for Bani-Sadr. "The center of the universe" himself, depending on these words and assessments, made those grandiloquent statements, issued ten orders of resistance and yearned for a cell at Evin or the hot sands of Khuzestan. These assessments resulted in the expectation that the people would rise angrier than before and like you set fire to anything they could lay their hands on. This did not happen. You believe it was not your inaccurate assessments, but the cowardice of the people, which caused lack of results. You use the same reasoning today to justify using arms to eliminate a climate of fear!

You do not know the elementary alphabet of struggle. If there is a climate of fear, you yourselves have created its first stage. The disgraceful running away was an acknowledgment of your inability and lack of will to resist. If you had understood, you would not have run away. A leader does not run!

Today you set fire to Vahed Company transit buses. Setting fire to buses was a mistake even during the shah's time. During these tumultuous times the buses meet the needs of those toiling and average people. Frankly, at first we thought you wanted regular buses because you considered Vahed Company's double-deckers as symbols of class society but we later saw that regular buses were also being burned! Such activities will not gain you even one follower. What will remain for you if the Vahed Company authorities show the buses around the city?

You killed six people at Friday prayers in Tabriz, not to mention that innocent learned old man. Such activities point to your inability and helplessness and are the stain of disgrace on the black record of your organization. Did you expect to break the 'climate of fear' with such acts?

Marching a short distance carrying arms is not such a big thing. University students know this. Despite those patrols, those guards and those SAVAK agents during the shah's time, the students would march long distances, for example attack the Gold City movit theater, and disperse in safety. Yet today very casually you fire on and kill people. Some act against the climate of fear!

Thank God He has bestowed fools upon us as enemies. This government was still thinking about what to do with hideouts and those in hiding when suddenly you yourselves solved the problem by putting your supporters and members in the streets. You are thus exposed and revealed. You give the people and the authorities the best opportunity to converge upon you and arrest you.

There is one solution. You must come out of your hiding and into the streets. The people will surround you, they will use any means for their defense. Fighting will break out and the people will deliver you to the courts. This is a good tactic. It is in fact your assessment and activities which have benefited the people and the government. So much for the genius! What miseries have you not suffered from associating with the "center of the universe"!

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CSO: 46401/1

GOVERNMENT CLOSES SOME CONTRACTING FIRMS

Tehran BURS in Persian 18 Aug 81 p 2

[Text] The Plan and Budget Organization has issued a circular in which it has announced the liquidation of 10 contracting firms because of their particular negative value.

According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the Plan and Budget Organization has informed all executive branches of the government by a circular that in the implementation of the law governing the management and ownership of contracting and engineering consultant companies approved by the Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran on 18 Esfand 1358 [8 Mar 80] the following 10 contracting companies which had been placed under government supervision temporarily have been liquidated because of their particular negative value:

1. Atrak Company, Ltd
2. Chakkosh Technical Construction Company, Ltd
3. "Shabat" Construction and Township Building Company, Ltd
4. Hiram Company, Ltd
5. Farkar Company, Ltd
6. Ta'min Construction Company, Ltd
7. Hadish Construction Company, Ltd
8. Atanesh Construction Company, Ltd
9. Precision Construction Company, Ltd
10. Moghan Construction Company, Ltd

As of this date the following conditions must be observed in matters related to the above-mentioned firms:

1. Continuation of work in hand by the companies can be carried on by the companies themselves if confirmed by the executive branch of government concerned and Note 1 of Article 46 of the General Contract Conditions will not be applicable in their case.
2. Executive branches of the government are forbidden to assign any new jobs to the above-mentioned companies.
3. In implementing the goal of equitable distribution and expansion of jobs, the employees of the above-mentioned companies can set up new contracting companies and

participate in government tenders; this, within the framework of the new Regulation 18036 of 20 Tir 1360 [11 Jul 81] approved by the council of ministers governing the competence of contracting, construction, building and equipment companies.

4. In case of the cancellation and termination of the operations of any of the above-mentioned companies there will be nothing to prevent the continuation of jobs from being assigned to contracting firms which have been formed by employees of the firm concerned, within the framework of the new regulation governing the competence of contractors.

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CSO: 4640/9

CENTER AUTHORIZED TO MANAGE ELECTRICAL PARTS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 6 Sep 81 p 18

[Interview with S.M. Musavi, managing director of the Center to Provide and Distribute Electrical Parts]

[Text] The Center to Provide and Distribute Electrical Parts has saved 4 billion rials in the past 6 months through better control of invoices and annually an average of \$1 billion worth of electrical parts are arriving in the country.

In the near future the center will have full control over the import of batteries, bulbs, wires and fuses.

Seyyed Mohammad Musavi, managing director of the Center to Provide and Distribute Electrical Parts also said that it is 8 months since the center began independent operations.

He added: At first only prices were controlled but with increased personnel in the first three months and better control over invoices we were able to effect a foreign exchange saving of 4 billion rials, a considerable amount.

Musavi said: In addition to controlling invoices the center a present also handles import of electrical parts, especially high-priced items which involve large amounts of foreign exchange.

He then added: The import of electrical parts and supplies constitutes some 11 percent of the country's imports, the import of this category of goods is about one billion dollars a year.

Musavi went on to say: Unfortunately since the center was established merchants have increased imports because they think the government is taking over a business section. They are therefore hoping to make a big profit by a one-time import even though the government take-over of foreign trade will take some 5 years and the government would do this gradually after adequate study.

Musavi then said: The government take-over of foreign trade has had a psychological effect on businessmen and although the shortage of some goods has been evident, one can also notice certain misrepresentations regarding imports.

He added: In this connection we are in direct contact with the Economic Mobilization Staff in order that an import limit be set for the consumers and domestic manufacturers.

Musavi added: At present the import of many luxury and unnecessary electrical parts such as fixtures, fancy car horns and fancy switches and plates. Fortunately most electrical parts are being imported by the government itself: by nationalized industries, the ministry of energy and other government companies and agencies. As a result, companies and agencies which have had long experience in the import of such goods provide us with information and companies and agencies which are new to the business refer to us for necessary information.

Musavi noted: Through its purchases the center has reached a relative stage of self-sufficiency, such as in telex. At the same time items such as bulbs and batteries which were scarce on the market have been purchased and will arrive in the country in the near future. These two items and others will be distributed to the consumer by the center through the Guild of Electricians and cooperatives. In this way middlemen will be eliminated and the goods will get to consumers at moderate prices.

Musavi said: A major portion of the country's need for batteries, bulbs and wires has arrived and in the near future this center will be the sole importer of batteries, bulbs, wire and fuses--an important step toward nationalizing foreign trade.

Musavi added: The policy of the center regarding these goods is to carry out infrastructural studies in the case of 5 or 6 types of goods and to bring them under government control later. In the case of goods which do not serve a purpose after sale: when monopoly is established this action will be expanded so as to become a government operated trade.

He concluded by saying: The offices of the General Trade Bureau will be asked to help in distributing goods in the provinces. At the same time special importance is attached to the quality of imported electrical goods. In the past this aspect did not receive consideration but because of the safety factor involved in electrical goods, quality control will be one of the important objectives of this center.

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CSO: 4640/9

VICE PREMIER DISCUSSES WAR, RELATIONS WITH TURKEY

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 82, 5-11 Sep 81 pp 26, 27

/Article by Qasim al-Samawi: "Taha Yasin Ramadan to AL-MAJALLAH: We Will Never Withdraw from Iran until It Acknowledges Our Rights, Even If This War Lasts 20 Years"/

/Text/ Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister of Iraq, stressed in a special interview with AL-MAJALLAH that Iraqi forces would never withdraw from Iranian territory before Iranian recognition of Iraq's legitimate rights, "even if this war lasts 20 years."

Mr Ramadan, who also occupies the position of commander general of the Popular Army, whose training and arming he has personally supervised, and who is now playing a prominent role in the field of combat with Iran alongside the regular army, spoke about a number of issues that are now being raised in the region in this special interview.

Mr Ramadan began the talk by discussing the visit he made recently to Turkey, saying "In the past years our relations with Turkey have gone through good, normal stages, and have been oriented toward the expansion of economic cooperation and the performance of joint activities, including the oil pipeline which extends from Iraq to the Turkish ports. On my latest visit to Turkey I discussed all aspects of cooperation between the two countries. Some people might be amazed that the visit was concerned with the discussion of general, comprehensive matters in a stage such as this, while Iraq is in a state of war, considering that these circumstances might perhaps not serve Iraq in attaining full results; clearly, Iraq and Iran are both neighbors of Turkey's, and, when the latter acts from a position of total neutrality, we cannot blame it, for considerations that are well known. However, we have confidence in the current Turkish government and its understanding of the real nature of the conflict, since it is one of the countries which is aware of this through its membership in the Islamic committee seeking peace. Through its prime minister, it is informed about the details of the situation, and we are confident that it is convinced that Iraq has no designs on Iran or others and is wholly anxious to establish good relationships and cooperation with its neighboring countries and Islamic countries in particular. I can say, overall, that we achieved a minimum of reasonable things during this visit and in some areas realized great progress. Trade, for example, has jumped from about \$14 million to more than \$100 million. The oil operations and the disappearance of returns on

them have been settled in a natural, satisfactory manner, there is an existing agreement between the two countries, and no violations of it have occurred. There was also discussion about enlarging the oil pipeline and other matters related to that, which will encourage us in the future to expand cooperation in this field. On the issue of the borders, we have no problem with Turkey. A new protocol has been signed and agreement has been positive. There has been complete clarity in drawing up a picture of the border positions of both countries; we have not felt, and they have not felt, that there is any dispute on this point.

Then the signing of a border agreement between Iraq and Turkey at this stage gives practical proof that Iraq wants to stress the ending of all border problems with all neighboring countries, when those countries reach full understanding of its rights. In reality, this issue has not taken much of our time at all."

The Iraqi first deputy prime minister added that in his visit to Turkey a long-standing desire appeared on the part of both parties "to coordinate between specific agencies in supervising the infiltration of saboteurs between both countries." He spoke about the subject of the Euphrates River waters, which Syria and Turkey share with Iraq, and said, "It has been decided that a meeting is to be held in 3 months for a discussion of this issue among the three parties. If Syria does not attend the meeting, we will meet with the Turks and reach agreement on whatever we agree to, and then the results will be presented to the third party. Turkey's position on the subject of the waters of the Euphrates River is positive."

Relations with Libya

We asked Mr Ramadan whether Turkish officials had raised the issue of conducting individual mediation between Iraq and Iran to end the war, and he replied "We did not ask that of them but they said that they would not abstain from performing such a role if they found suitable circumstances for doing so."

We asked Mr Ramadan about the nature of Iraqi-Libyan relations at the present time, especially after the recent visit by Maj 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud to Baghdad and the talk being bruited about on the development of a change in the Libyan position regarding Iraq's war with Iran and its inclination to support the Iraqi position. He replied, "I do not want to comment on this issue except to say that we have not sensed anything new on Libya's part and have not seen a change in its policy toward our war with Iran. Naturally we hope that Libya's position on this issue will change."

And with France

The conversation turned to the future of French-Iraqi relations, especially in the light of the visit by Mr Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi deputy prime minister, to Paris and his meeting with President Mitterand. Mr Ramadan said, "The object in Mr 'Aziz's visit to Paris was to discuss overall relations between Iraq and France. We in the command consider that relations with France require complete clarity. We hope that the new administration will have its eyes on the interests of France; we believe that the interests of France lie in full, extensive cooperation with Iraq and with the Arabs, but then the realization of this is up to the French

administration. We side with France in our relations at the level and stage France wishes and do not impose anything on France, but we do believe that France will profit from attention to its Arab and Iraqi relations, because no disruption or lack of commitment has been apparent on the part of the Arabs, or Iraq in particular, in their cooperation with France. We hope that a positive spirit and a sincere desire for such relations will predominate. In past years, clear foundations made themselves apparent in such relations, and they are well known to the new administration. Let us see how far this administration grasps the dimensions of these relations--less, more, or to the same extent, and in a manner that serves the interests of both parties. We do not want France, either, to abandon its independent European role vis-a-vis our central cause, the cause of Palestine."

We asked Mr Ramadan about the nature of the latest visit King Husayn made to Iraq and whether there have been any Jordanian moves regarding the prevailing situation on the Arab stage. He replied, "You know that King Husayn visits Baghdad from time to time to gain information and exchange views, that contacts between President Saddam Husayn and King Husayn have been continuous and that it has become a custom for consultation and discussions to take place between the two leaders in a manner strengthening relations between the two countries, presenting information on the state and course of the war, and in a manner showing concern for the Arab situation. During this visit a discussion took place between me and Mr Mudar Badran, the Jordanian prime minister, on the scope of bilateral cooperation between the two countries, especially in the economic field, and we noted some of the features the forthcoming stage will require, which will be discussed in detail by technicians."

The last question was on the Iraqi-Iranian war, which has lasted about a year. Ramadan said, "Iraq's position on this war has not changed. A cease fire, as far as we are concerned, means negotiation and the attainment of a clear agreement, then, after that, withdrawal to agreed-upon boundaries. There will never be an Iraqi withdrawal before recognition of our legitimate rights, even if the war goes on 20 years."

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CSO: 4404/12

INDUSTRY MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON TRADE RELATIONS

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic No 196, 24 Aug 81 pp 26, 27

[Interview with Iraqi Minister of Industry and Minerals Engineer Tahir Tawfiq in Baghdad by 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Qaysi: "Tahir Tawfiq in Interview With AL-DUSTUR: 'Iraq Can Find a Replacement for France, Can France Find a Replacement for the Arab?'" place and date not specified]

[Text] Despite the fact that the war is entering its second year, industry and development in Iraq are experiencing a high degree of progress. Iraq has decided to move from superficial interaction with resources toward organic interaction. Although Iraq has dealt with most industrialized states, it has placed special importance on France because of that country's past positions on the Arabs and Iraq. Iraq, which rejects political blackmail and insists on properly defined concepts in its international relations, asserts that it will not be the total loser in any case. AL-DUSTUR carried its questions to Engineer Tahir Tawfiq, minister of industry and minerals, and conducted the following interview with him.

AL-DUSTUR: What is the volume of commercial exchange between Iraq and France and between Iraq and Great Britain and the major industrial states? Do you anticipate a change in the industrial relations between Iraq and France?

Tahir Tawfiq: The volume of commercial exchange with the advanced industrial states currently occupies the top position in the scale of commercial exchange between Iraq and foreign states. This is because of two direct factors. First, Iraq aims at strengthening the concept of the independence of Europe as a whole from the influence of the imperialist policy of the United States. This coincides with Iraq's foreign policy, which is based on a course of complete independence from all blocs and international power centers. Consequently, we support every independent policy aimed at movement out of the orbit and control of these axes and powers.

The second reason is a purely technical one. The development process in Iraq demands the use of advanced and developed technological methods. Moreover, a large scale of development makes it impossible for any single agency to provide all the requirements of development, not to mention the fact that there are typically a limited number of states known for their advancement in a given industry while other states

are more advanced in other fields of industry. Our experience in dealing with states has shown that there is usually an area of specialization in a given industry for which one foreign state is noted above the other states. In our industrial and technical relations, we follow the course that will achieve our interests at the earliest opportunity and with the highest possible technology.

With regard to the level of cooperation with France, it was formerly very large and was growing rapidly. France had a favored position in Iraq and the Arab homeland as a result of the friendly relations established by the Arabs, who will continue to maintain these relations provided they remain consistent with the principle of reciprocity. France's just and noteworthy positions on Arab issues were met with equally noteworthy consideration on the part of the Arabs in economic and industrial relations. On this basis, this special consideration was applied to French companies, which enjoyed special and favorable trade relations even when in competition with other companies. Regarding a change in economic relations with France, this depends entirely on France itself. If France continues to exhibit friendly and amicable relations with Iraq and the Arabs, there will be no negative change in these relations. If there is a change in France's policy which has a negative effect on us as a country that gives precedence to its pan-Arab goals in its dealings with other countries, we will respond to this with measures that are in keeping with the size of the change as it occurs and develops. We can find a replacement for France and the French companies, but it would be exceptionally difficult for France to find a replacement for Iraq in particular and the Arabs in general. Rather than cooperating with French companies, we could find other similar companies to fill the gap left by the French companies.

At the same time, however, we sincerely hope that friendly relations will continue between us and that France will consider its reputation in Iraq and the Arab homeland. This is the policy which the late President Charles DeGaulle laid the foundations for and the leaders who followed him developed. We are interested in maintaining the bridges that have been opened between us and France. But if France desires another course, then we will respond to this step with a similar step of our own.

As for cooperation with Britain, it was insignificant last year. There has been some progress this year for British companies, which were virtually nonexistent in Iraq's development sector in the past. However, these British companies have obtained electricity projects through competition and they are advanced over many of the European states in this area. The British companies have demonstrated their seriousness and their resources. In addition, economic relations with West Germany are strong and its companies operate in Iraq without hesitation. They have obtained a large volume of work, especially during the past year. In general, the European companies have some sizeable capabilities and we have not experienced any difficulties in our dealings with most of them up to the present from the standpoint of their adherence to technical specifications and compliance with the deadlines set by the contracts without industrial organizations.

AL-DUSTUR: What is your assessment of industrial progress in Iraq and what is Iraq's position relative to the industrialized states? Will Iraq achieve industrial self-sufficiency during the coming years?

Tahir Tawfiq: The industrial progress made in Iraq in comparison to what existed prior to the revolution is clear for anyone to see. The development that has occurred since the revolution has taken two principal forms: First, the entry into new and important industries and, second, the modernization and development of the existing industries. If we wanted to compare the degree of progress, we would find that the volume of investment in just one of the strategic projects equals the entire accumulation of capital in the industrial sector prior to the revolution of 17 July 1968. Allocations in a single year such as last year amounted to seven times the allocations of the industrial sector during the 1965-1969 five-year plan. Allocations in 1980 reached 1.198 billion dinars. Industrial progress extended to fields within the sector such as research and development, training, and job qualification. I can say that the rate of modernization and development of production has increased 85 percent and the rate of modernization and development has reached 100 percent in some of our industries. The fact is that we cannot separate industrial progress from the progress that has occurred in all the other sectors since the revolution.

AL-DUSTUR: Does this mean you are on the way to self-sufficiency?

Tahir Tawfiq: Self-sufficiency has not been realized in industrial production, but this condition does not exist in any state in the world. Nonetheless, we are striving or trying to reach a position that will lead to the breaking up of the industrial monopoly. The question of self-sufficiency was raised as a slogan representing, in our estimation, a step against the developing states. The industrialized states have tried to instill and reinforce this concept among the Third World states that are on the road to development in order to draw them into a state in which they are fumbling about with an endless string of industries--industries which are secondary, marginal, and highly divergent. As a result, you will find that the states that have committed themselves to the slogan of self-sufficiency are incapable of achieving this because of a number of considerations, some of which are objective and some of which are subjective. On this basis, they will have lost important years of development that they could have gained had they followed the correct course from the beginning, which is based on matching material and technical resources to the goal. In our experience with industry in Iraq, we fell into this problem in the first years of our industrial activity but we realized this at a fairly advanced time. Therefore, we moved toward the large strategic industries that are the basic pillars of true advancement. Additional strategic industries will be established and Iraq will move out of the ranks of the developing states within a few years.

AL-DUSTUR: What industrial relations exist between Iraq and the Arab states? Are there new joint industrial projects between Iraq and these countries?

Tahir Tawfiq: Industrial relations between Iraq and the Arab countries exist, but our aspirations go beyond the existing ties. Therefore, we are working hard to transform the existing situation into Arab industrial integration. Excellent progress has been made toward this goal. The specialized Arab industrial organizations and the specific Arab federations have been established through joint Arab action, not to mention the bilateral activity between us and the other Arab countries. Moreover, Iraq is a principal partner in joint Arab projects. I don't believe there is any joint Arab project in which Iraq does not play a major role, both from their standpoint of planning or originating the project and from the standpoint of contributing materially to this capital. This confirms the necessity of our belief in

the creation of a material base for a stable joint Arab economy in order to achieve our major goal of Arab unity. When we are active in the Arab industrial field in order to attain integration, this is nothing unusual because it is a practical translation of our principles in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and of the goals of the revolution in Iraq.

The doors of Baghdad are open to any Arab industrial organization or Arab industrial organization or Arab federation whose body or responsible agency decides to move its headquarters to Baghdad. Baghdad has become a permanent center for Arab industrial activity, especially since Sadat's traitorous visit to Jerusalem. With regard to Iraq's organizational participation, Iraq is a member of the Arab Mineral Wealth Organization, which undertakes the job of coordinating mineral-related activity and operations among the member countries. The land of the Arab countries is well known for the mineral resources it contains in large quantities and excellent qualities. Our contribution to the Arab Mining Company amounts to 20 million Kuwaiti dinars. This makes us the largest contributor to this company, which came into being based on a resolution issued by the Arab Economic Unity Council. As a result of the membership of our country in this company, we participate in a number of Arab mining projects such as the Arab Iron and Steel Company in Bahrain, the Jordanian Fertilizer Industries Company, the National Industrial Building Materials Company in the Yemen Arab Republic, the Tunisian Mines Company, the Jabal Sarwa mines in Morocco, and other companies. We also participate in the Arab Anshiri Samin Mining Company, which is working to reopen and put into operation the Akjoujt mine in Mauritania. Our country has a 25 percent share in the \$75-million capital of this company.

I would like to add that because of our belief in the importance of the specific Arab federations and in the necessity of maintaining their activity, Iraq provides a 50-percent share of the budgets of some of these federations. These include the Arab Federation of Engineering Industries, the Arab Federation of Paper Industries, and the Arab Federation of Food Industries. This is a condensed outline of our activity in the field of Arab industrial integration, which we intend to make steadily more comprehensive and developed.

AL-DUSTUR: What is the size of the increase in the investment program and what are the main points of the industrial plan in application under the wartime conditions?

Tahir Tawfiq: Iraq has formulated the investment program and the fiscal budget of the state for the current year while waging a war for the defense of its land and waters and the future of the Arab nation against the racist Persian aggression. The demands of the war are well known, but in spite of this the investment program and the budget have achieved a 29-percent increase over last year. Iraq's allocations as officially announced amount to 5.24 billion dinars for all sectors, including the industrial sector. These allocations came as a great surprise to those who have failed to understand the new Iraq and its resources of leadership under the direction of President Saddam Husayn.

In Iraq, when we formulate a budget and set the allocations for a certain sector, we have studied the matter from all sides with the issue of development and the potentials for implementation constantly in mind. The allocations for the industrial sector for last year were 1.198 billion dinars. I mention this figure to point out the tremendous jump in allocations for the industrial sector. Similarly,

our allocations for the current year are large and the figures are high, ensuring us extensive resources and flexibility to achieve implementation and move ahead with new projects commensurate with our needs and aspirations.

AL-DUSTUR: What are the main changes in industrial policy due to war conditions?

Tahir Tawfiq: The Persian enemy has not changed anything in our situation. With regard to the industrial policy that was formulated within the plan--on the contrary, we are proceeding exactly according to plan. They bombed our industrial installations with the aim of halting development, but they met with a devastating failure. We have learned important lessons because of the war, including giving special attention to the demands of the projects, expediting some of the projects, and focusing on certain industries. In addition, the building of a reserve was authorized for some industries to remedy bottlenecks in our production of some products as a result of sabotage that has taken place in these industries because of the Persian aggression.

AL-DUSTUR: One question that observers are asking even more than journalists is this: What is the secret of the extensive development that Iraq is experiencing during the war?

Tahir Tawfiq: The secret lies in the extraordinary leadership and guiding intellect that makes Iraq unique. Iraq has been able to invest its financial resources in large-scale development projects based on pan-Arab rather than regional goals. It has included all dimensions of the future in its calculations. It has taken into account not merely the Persian aggression but the aggression plotted by the international power centers which have been terrified by Iraq's progress and forward strides in its march of development and knowledge within a framework of total independence and detachment from all international sides. The Zionist attack against our nuclear installations is the second link in the ongoing pursuit of the objectives of the Persian aggression. The secret also lies in the new Iraqi, the son of the revolution. In the midst of the war, the industrial sector in Iraq achieved an increase of 117 million dinars or \$400 million in implementation during the first half of the year in comparison to the same period last year. Similarly, in the area of production, some organizations achieved large increases during these months in comparison with the same period last year while other organizations were able to meet their production schedules while suffering from a shortage of manpower that reached as high as 40 percent of the labor force in some organizations.

The secret may also lie in the stability of our national economy and the soundness of our economic course in general.

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CSO: 4304/176

USE OF FOREIGN LABOR SUPPORTED

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 2 Sep 81 p 3

[Article: "Contractor al-'Isa Defends Principle of Employing Foreign Labor and Praises Government Incentives Granted to Contractors in This Area!"]

[Text] The issue of foreign labor has been a matter of wide discussion for some time. The Arab Labor Organization, which has its headquarters in Baghdad, has written a number of reports on the threat that non-Arab labor poses to the security of the Gulf states. The reports have also pointed out the social and economic problems that have resulted from the presence of hundreds of thousands of these workers in the Gulf states, which have low populations and different traditions and customs from those of the incoming non-Arab workers.

The Arab Labor Organization reports accused the Arab contractors who influence the hiring of foreign labor of doing so because of the low cost of hiring foreign laborers--especially workers from the Asian countries such as India, Korea, the Philippines, Ceylon, and others--without concern for the future problems that may arise in their societies due to the existence of these workers.

But what do the Arab contractors themselves say in response to all these accusations?

AL-WATAN met with a prominent contractor in Kuwait, 'Abd-al-Hamid Yusuf al-'Isa. Mr al-'Isa employs hundreds of Arab and foreign workers including 900 workers employed in construction of a low-income housing project in al-Jahara'. We asked him for his opinion on the contents of the Arab Labor Organization reports. He replied: "The foreign workers, particularly the Pakistanis and Indians, cause fewer problems than the Arab workers because they are humble and quiet, they are not insolent, and they carry out all the tasks assigned to them without argument."

In response to a question focusing on the threat that foreign workers pose to Kuwait's security, Mr al-'Isa said: "The Pakistanis and Indians do not pose any threat to the security of Kuwait. Their worst offenses rarely go beyond making and selling alcoholic beverages. However, the Koreans, Filipinos, and Thai can be considered more ill-tempered since their crimes are characterized by violence and cruelty." Mr al-'Isa explained that the Iranian worker is among the foreign workers characterized by diligence, endurance, and obedience. However, he said that the cost of Iranian labor has risen recently because the Iraqi-Iranian war has reduced the number of Iranian workers in Kuwait at present. Mr al-'Isa denied the existence of official barriers to the importation of foreign workers from abroad.

He said that the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Passports and Residency Department of the Ministry of Interior provide all the desired incentives in this area.

He added: "The official agencies know who the reliable contractors are and distinguish them from those who have turned the importation of labor into a commercial enterprise." He explained that when the companies he owns need workers, they contact individuals called "contractors" who bring labor from abroad at the requesting company's expense, including airfare.

He said that contractors also employ hundreds of the workers presently in Kuwait and contract with them locally.

In reply to a question concerning how the contractors are able to house hundreds of workers when they arrive in one group, he said: "Usually we build special housing for them in outlying areas such as al-Jahrah and al-Salibiyah. This housing is constructed of particle board or bricks."

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CSO: 4304/167

PUBLIC HOUSING DISTRIBUTION DISCUSSED

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 21 Aug 81 p 2

[Interview with Khalid Mansur, Government Housing Inspector by Salim al-Shimri: "Government Housing Distributed to Citizens, Members of the Military, and Policemen; Those Who Rent Out or Add To Their Dwellings Are in Violation of the Law"]

[Text] Khalid Mansur, government housing inspector in the Ministry of Housing, talked to AL-RA'Y al-'AMM about government houses, how they are distributed, and the problems that arise in dealings with the citizens pertaining to them.

At the beginning of the interview, he remarked about the nature of these houses and the terms under which they are turned over for occupancy:

[Mr Mansur] This public housing is Arab housing and the purpose behind its creation is to eliminate the shacks that exist in some areas of Kuwait. A decision has been issued by the Council of Ministers to implement this plan.

Conditions have been established for this housing and our role is to seek to uphold the law. We designate everyone to whom the conditions apply.

This is considered a routine operation to solve the citizen's problems. The phenomenon of shacks has been solved at the present time and this is attributable to the policy of the Ministry of Housing and its cooperation with certain ministries of state.

[Question] What is your comment on the al-Salibiyah houses, which have not yet been turned over for occupancy?

[Answer] These houses come under the cabinet's decision. They will be allocated only to owners of appropriated houses and owners of shacks who work in the Ministries of Interior and Defense. However, the shack problem has ended and thus the remaining houses will be for owners of appropriated houses. However, there are some cases in which other Kuwaiti households are eligible, as in the case of divorcees and orphans. They will be distributed to eligible Kuwaiti citizens. We have offices concerned with control and monitoring of these remaining houses. All of them will be completed soon. There has been nothing new concerning this. As for

the matter of the shacks and the houses belonging to members of the army and the police, those have been completed for 3 months. However, we are still waiting for owners of appropriated houses scattered throughout parts of Kuwait's suburbs.

[Question] Would it be possible to say how many al-Salibiyah houses are left at present?

[Answer] We aren't able to say exactly, but somewhere around 1,200 houses. There could be more or fewer than this. There are some owners of appropriated houses who have not yet come in about the allocation of public housing for them in the al-Salibiyah area. The remaining areas in line for allocation are areas 6 and 7. These houses will be distributed in three groups to Kuwaiti citizens, members of the military, and members of the police.

[Question] Does cooperation exist with the Ministry of [Social] Affairs with regard to recipients of rental allowances?

[Answer] Public housing has been assigned to many recipients of rental allowances and individuals who possess a voucher showing they have applied for a low-income housing unit. But this comes under the decision issued by the cabinet since the discussion concerned public housing and did not deal with low-income housing.

[Question] How are repairs handled?

[Answer] This is monitored and it is an infraction for any citizen to make repairs on the house or add anything that did not exist originally. Any citizen who does so is subject to a violation and is given a warning telling him to remove what he has added to the structure of the house, because in my opinion, these houses are considered to be rented from the government. There are monitoring offices for this purpose. All I want from the citizens is for them to cooperate with us and avoid altering the character of the house. It is by design an Arab house and every citizen should put the Housing Ministry's decisions above everything else. This is for the citizen's benefit.

[Question] What is the nature of the infractions and problems?

[Answer] There are several infractions and difficulties on the part of some citizens. For instance, they may rent the house assigned to them and this violates the regulation and policy of the state and the Housing Ministry. An individual who commits this violation could become subject to punishment and withdrawal of the house assigned to him.

Secondly, some families discard garbage in the streets. There has been no cooperation with the municipality. In the end we find that the area has piled up with filth, although there is an office in the Ministry of Housing and Health which is responsible for consciousness-raising and monitoring.

I might say to the citizen that this house concerns you more than it does any other agency.

All I want to say is that the Ministry of Housing and its employees are fully conscious of the citizens who are renting out their houses. However, we want some sensitivity from them so their feelings won't be in jeopardy.

[Question] Do you have a word to day about public housing?

[Answer] First of all, I want the citizens to cooperate. I hope they will make these houses their homes and not violate the regulations and policy of the Ministry of Housing. This interferes with the established plan. Some citizens are using their houses for improper purposes and we ask them please to refrain from this and consider their houses as fulfilling a need.

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CSO: 4304/167

CENTRAL BANK ISSUES OIL REVENUE FIGURES

Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 2 Sep 81 p 7

[Article: "Central Bank: Oil Imports Up 20 Percent in First Quarter of This Year"]

[Text] A regular statistical report issued by the Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday announced that oil revenues during the first quarter of the current year reached around 1.355 billion dinars. This represents a 20 percent increase over the previous quarter. The reason for the rise was the oil price increase based on the decisions of the Bali Conference which met last December.

The report stated that oil revenues underwent a large decline in May, dropping 32 percent from the previous month's level. This was due to a decrease in the quantities of oil produced.

Kuwait has set its average crude oil production at 1.25 million barrels per day. However, the average production level currently stands at 800,000 barrels per day because of conditions in the world oil market. The price of Kuwaiti oil is \$35.50 per barrel.

In another area, the report stated that domestic liquidity continued to expand at an accelerated rate during the second quarter of the year. Total liquidity at the end of this period stood at 3.386 billion dinars, representing an increase of 411 million dinars or 35.8 percent. This expansion was noted to a lesser degree in the amount of currency in circulation, which grew by 13 million dinars of 5.3 percent.

The report added that the acceleration in the rate of growth of near-money (the second component of liquid assets) is attributable from another standpoint to foreign currency deposits--which increased by 81 million dinars or 13.9 percent in contrast to a 1.5-percent drop during the previous quarter--and to time deposits, which grew by 17 million dinars of 6.3 percent in contrast to a 1.3-percent increase in the previous quarter.

The report explained that the increase in the currency block resulted from two main factors: first, the fact that the government paid teachers' salaries for May through August via the commercial banks; and second, the fact that this quarter coincided with the end of the fiscal year for the state's general budget. The end of the fiscal year is usually accompanied by an increase in government expenditures which penetrates to the private sector through the banking system. The report indicated that the domestic banks' holdings of Central Bank bonds rose from 1.25 million dinars at the end of March to 151 million dinars at the end of June.

ENVOY IN LEBANON DISCUSSES AL-QADHDHAFI INITIATIVE

NC231000 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 19025 Oct 81 pp 17-22

[Article by Lydia Georgi]

[Excerpt] The Libyan ambassador in Lebanon has stated that the newly announced Libyan initiative towards a political settlement of the Lebanese crisis has a better chance of success than past initiatives, primarily because "it will take into consideration the factors that led to past failures, the current political atmosphere, and the psychological circumstances of all the Lebanese people's communities."

Salih al-Duruqi whose official title is secretary of the Popular Committee of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Office (Embassy), told MONDAY MORNING in a private interview last week that the Libyan initiative, which was being launched with the knowledge of Damascus and in consultation with it, was not incompatible with the efforts of the Arab follow-up committee, the Saudi-Kuwaiti-Syrian-Lebanese body formed by an Arab summit to settle the Lebanese crisis.

The committee, he said, represented the Arab league, including Libya, and "it follows that the success of the committee's mission is not incompatible with our initiative--an initiative which we hope will deal with the problem in more depth."

The Libyan initiative was first announced by the Libyan leader, Col Mu'ammr al-Qadhdhafi, in a speech last September 1 marking the 12th anniversary of the revolution that brought him to power.

The "practical steps" to be taken by Libya towards a political settlement in Lebanon and the timing of those steps would be decided in the light of discussions the Libyan Embassy was now having with all major parties in Lebanon, al-Duruqi said.

Those discussions would identify "the common denominator...in the views of all the influential parties," he said, stressing that the talks would not touch on "the firm principles that link Lebanon with its Arab nation--principles which are not open to discussion, regardless of the differences of view on the details."

Asked whether he believed that his government could reconcile the views of such hostile parties as the rightist Phalangist Party and former President Sulayman Franjiyah, al-Duruqi said that Franjiyah's actions were guided by his "national awareness of the dangerous point the Lebanese crisis has reached"--the same "awareness" that prompted the Libyan initiative.

"We have sensed in him (Franjiyah) a strong interest in the success of the Arab role in Lebanon," al-Duruqi added. "At any rate, it is not our task to sponsor reconciliations between any of the groups, but to stop the hemorrhage which has gone beyond Lebanon and begun to pose a threat to the Arab struggle."

Al-Duruqi was asked how Libya hoped to deal with the Shi'ite community in view of the often expressed Shi'ite hostility to Libya after the disappearance of the Shi'ite leader, Imam Musa al-Sadr, in 1978. The Libyan diplomat rejected the question, stating that it was impossible for hostility to exist between the Shi'ite community and the Libyan revolution.

Noting that Libya "does not deal with sects" and "refuses to consecrate sectarianism," al-Duruqi said, "the Shi'ite are part of the Arab nation...and we work for their interests. Most of the people who benefit from the services we offer in various (Lebanese) regions are members of the noble Shi'ite sect, because of their presence in the most needy regions."

He added: "In our continuing contacts, we will request a meeting with the higher Shi'ite Council, with the (Shi'ite) Amal movement, with the (Shi'ite) front for the preservation of the south and with other bodies that can be of benefit to us as we seek to determine the details of our initiative."

Al-Duruqi admitted that Libya had provided funds and arms to "all the Lebanese organizations which announced their commitment to the Arab identity of Lebanon and to the protection of the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon." Despite the fact that the Libyan "Jamahiriyah" valued the security and sovereignty of Lebanon, he said, it had found itself forced to intervene on the side of those parties when it had sensed the danger posed to the Palestinian resistance which was present in Lebanon due to "unavoidable circumstances."

Libya's involvement in the Lebanese conflict, however, did not rule it out as a mediator towards a political settlement, "since we are now certain that all parties have accepted the impossibility of a military solution and the inability of any party to crush the other," al-Duruqi said.

Noting that Syria and Libya were "bound together by an announcement of union," he stressed that any step taken by either country, including the Libyan initiative in Lebanon, would necessarily serve the national goals the two countries had agreed upon. Col al-Qadhdhafi had informed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad of his initiative before announcing it last September, and Libya and Syria "are in constant agreement and consultation," he said.

Asked whether the initiative had been officially proposed to the Lebanon Government, al-Duruqi said this would be done shortly, but he noted that he had discussed the matter with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan in September, and that the prime minister had welcomed the Libyan move and offered advice which might improve its chances of success. (Shortly after this interview was conducted last Wednesday, al-Duruqi visited Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, discussed the Libyan initiative and told reporters later that Butrus had welcomed it.)

Libya this summer formally offered to provide Lebanon with an air defense network to protect Lebanese territory against Israeli air raids. In his interview with

MONDAY MORNING, al-Duruqi emphasized that the offer still stood, but he added that the actual installation of the defense network depended on a political settlement of the Lebanese crisis, which would involve national accord on the question of the Lebanese army and Lebanon's defense policy.

"Nevertheless," he said, "the Lebanese authorities alone have the right to discuss the timing and manner of implementation."

In his "acceptance in principle" of the Libyan offer, Premier al-Wazzan said that any weapons offered to Lebanon gratis would be thankfully received on condition that they be in the hands of the Lebanese exclusively. The leftist Lebanese National Movement and al-Wazzan himself have both stated, however, that full use of the Lebanese army for security duties must await a reorganization of the army to make it "more balanced" and acceptable to all parties in Lebanon.

On another subject, al-Duruqi suggested that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's public assurances that he would continue the policies of his assassinated predecessor, Anwar al-Sadat, should not be taken seriously yet.

"History has taught us that no ruler or leader walks along the path of his predecessor, although he may claim to at the beginning of his regime," he said. "At any rate, the final word will be said by the Egyptian people and armed forces if Mubarak tries to stay on the path of treason.... Egypt will return to the movement of the Arab struggle more quickly than the enemies of the Arab nation imagine."

And when that happened, "There will no longer be what you call 'Egyptian-Libyan relations'; there will be a merger and a fusion of two parts of one land and one people." Al-Duruqi said, adding: "The same applies to Sudan."

CSO: 4500/31

LIBYA

BRIEFS

HUNGARIANS FLYING LIBYAN PLANES--Hungary has recently sent a number of pilots to Libya to operate Soviet-made Libyan air force aircraft, according to a report in the Saudi paper AL-MAJALLAH. According to the paper, the mission of the Hungarian pilots was coordinated with the Soviet Union. To date it had only been disclosed that Cuban pilots were serving in the Libyan air force. [Text] [TA271108 Tel Aviv WA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Oct 81]

CSO: 4423/25

AFP DESCRIBES MOROCCO'S 'MAGINOT OF SAND'

NO281028 Paris AFP in English 1005 GMT 28 Oct 81

[By Jean-Christophe Mitterrand]

[Text] Smara, Western Sahara, 28 Oct (AFP)--Moroccan troops were today watchful but not on maximum alert along the "Maginot of Sand" defence line protecting what Morocco calls "useful Sahara"--the El Ayn Port, Bu Acraa phosphate mines and Smara Holy City, "gateway" to Sahara's disputed southern and central areas.

Moroccan troops have been battling Polisario independence front forces for the past two weeks since a lightning Polisario attack against the Moroccan fortress of Guelta Zemmur.

The Polisario, which is fighting for the independence of the former Spanish Sahara, claim to have destroyed the "Maginot of Sand," completed last January by Morocco to protect the main towns in northern Sahara.

For the first time this year the Moroccan army has allowed a newsman to travel by road along the entire length of this 450-km (280-mile) defence line, and visit its many strongpoints.

The two-day trip from Tan-Tan in Southern Morocco to El Ayun, via Smara, was made without any military escort, just a guide in an ordinary car.

The "Maginot of Sand" is formed by a rampart of sand about four metres (12 feet) high fashioned by bulldozers.

Strongpoints have been built every five to six kms (two-and-a-half to the three miles), each garrisoned by 300 to 500 troops.

A Moroccan officer noted that the Polisario, using mobile hard-hitting commando columns, had frequently attempted to halt construction, and fighting had sometimes been very heavy.

But since the line's completion, he said, the fighting had died down considerably. The last battle of the kind had been on 22 August at Khraybichat, 50 kms (30 miles) northwest of Smara.

The Polisario had tried to infiltrate troops between two of the defence lines' strongpoints, relatively far from each other, after penetrating the protective minefield set all along the defence line.

Moroccan troops, equipped with radar, had spotted the enemy and called up artillery and a special intervention combat unit.

A Polisario political commissar and a "military leader" had been killed, and a vehicle destroyed in the middle of the minefield.

In Smara and other main towns in the area, life is normal and business is flourishing with the presence of so many soldiers.

There is extensive building in El Ayun and whole new residential areas are going up.

On Sundays, local merchants drive down the line in trucks to sell goats and hens while soldiers relax by playing football, often beside an artillery battery.

An officer in Smara explained that Morocco dominated "useful Sahara" with the "Meginot of Sand."

He said: "Polisario can travel all over the rest of the country which is practically uninhabited. It will finally collapse for it does not have limitless resources in men and material."

Meanwhile, 20 Moroccan air force French Mirage-F1 and American F-5 jet fighter-bombers were flying continuous missions against the enemy despite poor weather conditions.

CSO: 4500/29

OFFICIAL INDICATES WILLINGNESS TO LIMIT ACCESS TO FACILITIES

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 240, 26 Sep 81 pp 26-27

[Article by Riyadh Najib al-Rayyas: "Oman Will Back Away From American Facilities, If the Gulf States Pay \$2 Billion"]

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Gulf states have again gathered around the conference table in Ta'if. The six "Gulf knights" have come to understand that accomplishments made in the meetings of the ministerial council of the Gulf Cooperation Council so far have been of great importance, but are still diminished by the lack of discussion regarding political and strategic priorities, i.e., the relationship with the West, and the foreign connections of each of the council nations.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, the Kuwaiti foreign minister, opened the conversation by asking Qais al-Zawawi, the foreign minister of Oman, about the matter of U.S. facilities in Oman, and whether they would increase or diminish the strategic dangers faced by the Arab Gulf nations.

Qais al-Zawawi replied to Shaykh Sabah's questions by saying: "The subject of American facilities in Oman has never been a mystery. The questioning about it continues, and its plusses and minuses are explored. Therefore, the subject of U.S. facilities in Oman must be put in its historical framework, so that the reasons and motives for it can be discussed. The American facilities were given after the treaty of friendship and cooperation between South Yemen and the Soviet Union was signed in November 1979. Moreover, the agreement between Muscat and Washington was made after the seizure of the American hostages in Teheran and the American-Iranian crisis of November 1979 which continued throughout 1980. This constituted a threat to the stability of the region. This was also done after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the spread of the Soviet occupation of that country, and the escalation of the international situation because of it. All these factors made Oman aware that the Soviet presence was encircling it from Afghanistan and the Indian sub-continent, and was threatening to bring down Iran in its grasp. The Soviet danger was even much closer than that, through South Yemen and its treaty with Moscow, which has been reinforced by the Soviet military presence in the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa, by virtue of its relations with the Ethiopian regime.

When Oman found itself less than 40 minutes away from Soviet aircraft, whether from Beirut or Addis Ababa, the matter of facilities was broached with the United States.

"You see, the fact that Soviet encirclement drawing closer to us caused us to discuss with the United States the matter of giving them military facilities in Oman, in exchange for developing Omani military installations, in terms of airfields and bases, for which Oman does not have the financial capability, so as to put them in a defensive posture, capable of deterring any attack or the possibility of a Soviet attack, either directly or through South Yemen or Ethiopia. This also includes training and arming the Omani armed forces, in a fashion that would be in keeping with the dangerous developments surrounding the region, and in accord with developing the military facilities required to protect the country's security. Washington accepted developing these installations in the required military fashion, in exchange for giving them the right to use them when necessary.

"The American approval must have an official agreement ratified by the Congress, so that the U.S. government can pay the costs of developing and outfitting these facilities, which will amount to \$2 billion over 10 years, because Washington cannot spend this amount of money without an official agreement ratified by the U.S. Congress. However, the Gulf states could easily pay out amounts of this size without any written agreements. We in Oman believe that the facilities agreement with the United States is of itself a deterrent against any direct or indirect Soviet adventure."

We Will Cancel the Facilities In Exchange for \$2 Billion

At this juncture, Qais al-Zawawi stopped talking for a brief period, and then said in his usual low voice that his country was prepared to gradually abandon the American facilities agreement, if the GCC nations were prepared to pay \$2 billion over the next 10 years to develop the same Omani military installations.

At this point, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad became excited and said: "We are prepared to pay this amount in exchange for abolishing these facilities."

Al-Zawawi smiled at Shaykh Sabah's enthusiasm and said: "It is not enough for you alone to be prepared; on the contrary, all the council nations must be prepared."

Shaykh Sabah replied that he was prepared to take the matter on his shoulders. None of the ministers present commented on the Omani proposal, nor on the Kuwaiti reply. The council was content to take note of the Omani position regarding the matter of facilities. However, Shaykh Sabah told al-Zawawi again: "Don't concern yourself with their silence; I will follow up the matter with them." The ministers present did not add anything to the matter.

At that point, Shaykh Sabah asked al-Zawawi: Why not submit the facilities agreement to the council for debate?

Al-Zawawi replied that his country was prepared to file a copy of the facilities agreement with the secretariat general, if all the council nations were ready to do the same with all their agreements with foreign nations in the secretariat general.

Those present were silent, and not one of them said anything. Shaykh Sabah and al-Zawawi considered the matter closed.

Faysal: And the Israeli Danger?

While the Omani paper discussed the GCC's political priorities, the Saudi paper, which was a development of the Omani paper tasked by the last Abu Dhabi conference, also discussed these priorities from various angles. The Saudi paper stressed that if the Soviet Union was a threat to the Gulf, that does not mean that the United States should be brought into the area, because this does not serve the matter. The ministers debated the political priorities at length and studied the situation in Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal concentrated on the fact that the Gulf priorities are Arab and Islamic priorities.

Qais al-Zawawi said that the more Gulf self-defense power was increased and established militarily, the more the dependence on Western presence was decreased. However, no matter what happened, that would not decrease the Soviet presence in the region. The conflict between the two superpowers has been imposed on the region. Therefore, no matter what progress is made in the Middle East question, that would not cancel out the American-Soviet struggle over the Arabian Peninsula. The confrontation between Moscow, and those nations allied with it in the region, and the group of Gulf nations would continue.

When the Saudi minister reaffirmed that Israel was the real danger to the region, which does not abolish the Soviet danger but only equals it, the Omani minister raised the subject of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Libya, South Yemen and Ethiopia, recalling what the South Yemeni president, 'Ali Nasr Muhammad, said to the effect that the three nations have the goal of confronting "the increasing military activities of the United States and some other Arab nations in the region." The Omani minister demanded criticism of this treaty, by virtue of the fact that it was a direct threat to the security of the region and an attempt to bring it into the circle of international alliances.

Suwait objected to the principle of direct criticism, because it would give the impression that the GCC constitutes a military and political bloc hostile to the South Yemeni-Libyan-Ethiopian bloc. Saudi Arabia also had reservations about the Omani request, because that would affect the Gulf, Arab and international actions regarding approval of Prince Fahd's initiative pertaining to the Middle East question. Opening any peripheral battle with any Arab party would lead to a division in the Arab position, when Prince Fahd's plan is proposed within the Arab League framework at the next Arab summit, considering that it is a possible and reasonable basis for an Arab initiative to solve the Middle East question. Therefore, the final joint statement did not refer to this treaty directly, but was content with allusions. Moreover, that was also Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's position at the press conference that he held at the end of the meetings, when he said, in reply to a question about this tripartite treaty, that the six foreign ministers had discussed it, but that they did not have any detailed or clear information about it. However, he alluded to the fact that this matter was disturbing to many of the Arab states, and must be studied within the framework of the Arab mutual defense agreement.

Another the most important thing disturbing some Arab parties about this treaty is the introduction of a non-Arab state into an agreement between two Arab states, especially since Mengistu has recently begun to attempt to arrange negotiations with Somalia to solve his pending problem with it. He has also begun to discuss a solution to the Eritrean problem, by a rapprochement with Sudanese President Ja'afar

...and by his agreeing to hold a Sudanese-Egyptian-Ethiopian summit conference to solve the problems of the Nile waters.

Therefore, many observers question the Ethiopian interests in entering into an Arab-Arab alliance. These observers believe that the only explanation is that Moscow pressured Ethiopia to join in this treaty. These observers see a connection between this analysis and Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi's visit to Abu Dhabi and Kuwait, coming from Addis Ababa. Informed Gulf sources confirm the al-Qadhdhafi asked both Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan, ruler of the United Arab Emirates, and Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, to give financial and military assistance to Ethiopia, or else Ethiopia "would change the oil into red oil." These sources commented on this report by saying that Ethiopia has been able to solve its economic problems and its problems with Somalia and Eritrea through cooperation and friendship with the Gulf Arabs, not by unjustifiably stirring them up.

Frankness... Frankness

The most important factor of the second day's meetings of the Ta'if conference was the desire of all the GCC's members to develop the council's position regarding the issues, in such a way as to strengthen the feeling of more gain than loss. Accordingly, the positions of most of the nations were calm and flexible, and not rigid or stubborn.

The six Gulf ministers wanted to deal with their Arab brothers outside of the Council on the basis of maintaining a minimum relationship with the nations, so as to keep them in the friends' column and not get them all stirred up. They also wanted to gather together the Arab ranks regardless of the positions of any of the GCC's factions, whether they be negative or positive.

The second day of the 3-day Ta'if conference has passed, and there has been profound political discussion. The frankness among the six Gulf statesmen has become as if it were a normal occurrence which happens in the course of transitory affairs.

The smile on the faces of those sitting around the table have broadened, and they understand that it is the first step along the path to Gulf cooperation, despite the fact that it is the most difficult. The second step is the most dangerous, as to profits and losses in the changing world of politics.

The path has appeared, as if it were completely insecure.

NEW POLICIES OF ARAB INVESTMENT AGENCY DISCUSSED

Beirut AL-IQTISAD WA AL-A'MAL in Arabic No 29, Aug 81 pp 66-67

[Article by Husayb Abu Dhurgham: "Arab Investment Agency in New Steps"]

[Text] The public session of the Arab Investment Agency, held in Riyadh at the end of last June, contained several developments this year that indicate the board of directors' desire to give a new thrust to the agency, which was established in 1975 to be a model for official Arab cooperation in the fields of investment and growth financing. Here is a report which reviews the latest developments regarding the agency's activities, investments and financial results.

For the first time since the founding of the Arab Investment Agency in 1975, this year will see a distribution of the major part of the net profits for 1980. This amounts to about \$20.7 million to the shareholders, 5 percent of the value of the shares. Consequently, as was the custom, there will not be a total transfer of the profits to the legal reserve and general reserve accounts. If it is taken into consideration that the subscribed capital actually amounts to \$290.5 million (from the original \$300 million), the total profits to be distributed will be a little more than 14.5 million.

Expansion Steps

In a second significant step, the agency has decided to open a foreign banking unit in Bahrain, which will administer a portfolio of investments and carry out various financial operations. It was also decided that the agency will begin new operations, such as confirming letters of guarantee, and financing the contracts of Arab and non-Arab firms that have obtained commitments to projects in the Arab World and that need financing. This is important with respect to Arab firms, especially since it makes a source of financing available to them which they might not be able to find in foreign banks, and if they did find it, it would be at a higher percentage, in view of the fact that the foreign bank would add a foreign market percent for the risk involved to the general cost of the loan. The cost of the risks of lending money would remain lower in any Arab country in the case of an Arab financing agency, supported by official Arab authorities. The agency's deputy director general, Mr. Tal Sulayman, says that such financial services as these, in addition to the agency's routine to carry out primary guarantee activities, and to guarantee completion of important projects, represents an indirect incentive to undertake economic projects in the Arab World, in view of the reduced cost of financing and insuring the lowering of the necessary guarantee. These services include governmental and quasi-governmental organizations, as well as joint-stock companies in the private sector.

Balance between the Profit Motive and Growth Needs

Despite its formation as an investment agency operating in accordance with market considerations, and especially aimed at making profits, the Arab Investment Agency is tried to maintain a kind of balance between commercial considerations and its resposused role as an instrument for growth and for financing vital projects within the Arab World, whether through making loans at market interest rates, or through direct participation with a specific percentage of the capital. The Arab Investment Agency, therefore, differs from commercial banks in being able to accept a greater share of risks than any commercial bank could accept. On the other hand, it also differs from development funds, particularly the Arab Development Fund, in the fact that the latter makes long-term loans to infrastructure projects, whereas the agency concentrates on production projects, and at times directly participates in them. Consequently, it enters into the project's administration, and within this framework, bears a basic part of the responsibility for directing the project and making it successful.

Distribution of Obligations by Sector and Geographically

The annual report of agency operations for 1979 shows the distribution of financial obligations to all the economic sectors despite a greater concentration on the production sectors. Agricultural industry projects, for example, monopolized about 31.40 percent of the agency's total obligations. The (finishing industries) obtained 13.02 percent, oil and mining 21.06 and banking services, insurance, tourism and others about 15.92 percent. Governmental sectors received about 8.34 percent.

On the geographic level, the largest share of investments went to Sudan (26.67 percent), with the majority of these investments represented by the agency's participation in a sugar company, amounting to \$21.76 million (14 percent of the capital). Moreover, the loans granted to the project amount to nearly \$48.25 million, which makes the agency's obligations to the sugar company alone the equivalent of 23 percent of the total investments in 1979. In view of the decline in the value of the Sudanese pound since that time, the value of the agency's investment in the sugar company has declined by \$4.7 million up to the end of 1979.

Following Sudan in value of investments are Algeria (19.47 percent), Egypt (12.06 percent), Morocco (9.7 percent), Saudi Arabia (7.3 percent), Jordan (6.3 percent), Mauritania (5.63 percent), Qatar (4.65 percent) and Tunisia (2.38 percent).

Classification of Investments and Profits

The Arab Investment Agency's principal investments were distributed between two main types:

1. *Short-term investments*, especially comprising financial notes, certificates of deposit, deposits in currencies, as well as some short-term loans.

2. *Medium and long-term investments*, particularly including participation in projects, and especially long-term loans.

The development of the agency's general budget should be noted. The tangible development in the sector of direct participation increased in value from \$67.9 million in 1979 to \$109.8 million in 1980. The initial figures for the first 5 months of 1981 indicate a modest development in these participations, which have increased to \$113.4 million. However, loans increased some 31 percent during this period, after having significantly declined in 1979. The portfolio of financial notes continues without any development worth mentioning, perhaps as a reflection of the sluggishness that dominates the bond market, influenced by rising interest rates of currencies, especially the dollar.

The Arab Investment Agency's net profits have grown uninterruptedly, amounting to \$20.7 million in 1980, compared to \$11.4 million in 1979 and \$7.1 million in 1978. The statement of profits and losses for the years 1978-79 shows that interest on bank deposits and loans comprise the largest part of the agency's revenues (about 98 percent in 1978 and 93 percent in 1979).

Finally, there is a reference to the fact that the agency's board of directors will hold its next meeting in the Jordanian capital during next September. At this meeting it will discuss several important financial and administrative issues.

It remains to be said that the Arab Investment Agency is an outstanding experiment, and that it has specialized standing in the sphere of joint Arab action on the international level. Undoubtedly, it deserves serious and profound appreciation.

1001
000: 4.4/32

SAUDI ARABIA

BRIEFS

WIDESPREAD ARRESTS REPORTED--The Committee for Human Rights in Saudi Arabia implored all progressive and honorable forces in the world to join with the Saudi people in opposing the widespread arrest campaign which the Saudi regime is launching against the citizens in various parts of the country to silence opposition. In a statement distributed yesterday the committee announced that "the repressive authorities of the reactionary Sa'ud family regime are carrying out a campaign of widespread arrests in various parts of the country. This is intended to silence the opposition and intimidate our people, who are determined to carry on their difficult struggle to achieve their goals of freedom and democracy." The statement added: "The Committee to Defend Human Rights in Saudi Arabia implores all progressive and honorable forces in the world to raise the flag of solidarity with our people, break through the informational blackout imposed by the Saudi regime and expose its wicked and repressive methods." In its statement the committee distributed the names of some political prisoners in Saudi prisons. They are: Turki Muhammad Ibrahim al-Turki (employee of municipality of Tarwat); Ja'far al-'Askari (ARAMCO employee); Habib Mahdi Habib (student); Shakir Salman, Ahmad Jasim al-Damin, 'Abdallah Ahmad al-'Abid, 'Abdallah Marhun Ya'qub, 'Aziz Qumbar, Fu'ad Muhammad al-Badrani, Habib 'Ali Jabir, Muhammad Sa'id al-Nimr, 'Ali Sa'id al-Nimr, 'Abd-al-Karim Sa'id al-Nimr, Ahmad Muhammad al-Faraj, Sa'ud 'Ali Hamad, 'Ali Salman 'Umar, Ja'far Muhammad Jawad al-Rih and 'Abdallah Husayn Sa'id. The statement explained that there are two persons on the wanted list whose homes were searched, and they are Ja'far Kasib Haydar and Hasan Husayn al-Ibrahim. [Text] [Beirut AL-NIDA' in Arabic 1 Sep 81 p 1] 7587

1901: 4404/6

SUDAN

BRIEFS

REAGAN CONGRATULATED ON AWACS DEAL--Khartoum, 29 Oct (SUNA)--President Numayri today cabled U.S. President Ronald Reagan congratulating him on his administration's success in approving the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia. The following is the text of the cable: Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, the White House, Washington. Mr President, dear friend: This morning we have learned that your administration has succeeded in approving the AWACS deal with fraternal Saudi Arabia. We take this opportunity to stress to you, Mr President, that this step will have a deep positive influence on the existing fraternal relations between the United States and the Arab world. This step also pinpoints your prudent leadership which plays a positive role in establishing peace, justice and stability in the world. On this occasion we send you our warm congratulations and great appreciation for all the efforts you have exerted for the sake of this noble deed which will enable Saudi Arabia to play its role as a leading state in the region. Mr President, please accept our great appreciation. [Signed] Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan. [Text] [JN291528 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 29 Oct 81]

GSO: 4504/57

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

DUBAI PROJECTS PROMOTE TOURISM

Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 1 Sep 81 p 4

[Article by Ahmad Salim: "Domestic Tourism in Dubai Being Encouraged; 104 Million Dirhams for Improving Recreational Facilities"]

[Text] An estimated total of 103 million dirhams will be spent to improve recreational parks in Dubai in the hopes of creating a five-year plan within the framework of domestic tourism in Dubai that will reduce the tourist flow abroad.

This plan involves promoting domestic facilities, such as hotels, and opening recreational areas for families, guests, locals and foreigners, motivating them toward the recreation centers and restricted halls which are planned for construction in Dubai.

Implementation of the plan began with the agreement which was reached with a Japanese company to effect a radical change in Mushraf Park. The park will include open rides, restricted halls for families and individuals, the construction of a new restaurant and railway, electric games for children and sound grottoes. Also, the park will be landscaped, the lighting will be redone and drinking water will be provided. The Dubai municipal council earmarked the sum of 21.3 million dirhams in this year's budget for improving Mushraf and al-Safa Parks of which 12 million is for Mushraf Park. It is probable that these appropriations will fall within the estimates of the comprehensive plan given the great attention to creating extensive tourist traffic in Dubai.

Kamal Hamzah, director of Dubai Municipality, formed a health and technical committee comprising Dr. Jalal Bayumi, the municipal doctor who is in charge of the laboratory, and Sa'id Tawfiq, chief of the athletic and recreational section of the municipality, to tour all the hotels in Dubai and their recreational facilities to check out their health and technical conditions and the extent to which their employees are qualified. This committee will hold periodic meetings with the management of the hotels to work out proposals on how to create domestic tourism and will submit its report to the director of the municipality.

Sa'id Tawfiq, the recreation official of the municipality, stated in an interview yesterday that the plan includes a proposal to build a recreation park for families and children in the middle of Dubai in addition to Mushraf and al-Safa

Parks. Initial contracts have been let with three national companies to improve al-Safa Park and to construct rides for children, to add another railway and to provide air-conditioned restricted halls. He said that the plan will include construction of a legally restricted swimming pool for individuals, families and children, this having already been done at Mushraf Park. He said that consideration is being given to making full use of Dubai's natural shores to establish restricted beaches for families and in conformity with the social capabilities of the population so that the families can avoid being harassed by the Asian single men.

Safety and rescue facilities will also be provided at the beaches. Tawfiq added that local investors had begun to lean toward recreational investment and some of them had made requests to construct tourist halls and casinos in Dubai.

8389

CSO: 4304/142

BRIEFS

FIVE-YEAR PLAN CITED--The state's first five-year plan, on which the cabinet was briefed yesterday, is aimed at preserving and properly exploiting its natural resources to achieve social equality and raise the standard of living. The plan is also aimed at avoiding dependence on oil resources and selecting projects that meet a national requirement and strive to diversify sources of income in the country, taking into consideration the population increase which, according to the state's last census in December, 1980, has reached more than 1 million. The UAE news agency has learned that the UAE's first five-year plan has estimated that per capita income in the state will reach 130,000 dirhams a year by 1985, one of the plan's primary goals being a continued increase in the standard of living, both from the standpoint of consumption and services. The five-year plan involves a number of new projects in the areas of oil, agriculture, animal resources, extraction industries, transport and communications, in addition to expansion in the sectors of health and education services. During the cabinet's January, 1979, session, it had approved the proposal of the Ministry of Planning to prepare a medium-range five-year plan. The federation's Supreme Council approved preparation of a comprehensive economic development plan covering the years from January, 1981, and ending in December, 1985. The cabinet is subsequently expected to promulgate a decision to form a supreme ministerial committee for national planning for the UAE. [Text] [Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 1 Sep 81 p 2] 8389

DUBAI IMPORT, EXPORT FIGURES--An official source in the bureau of ports and customs in Dubai announced that during the first three months of this year commercial traffic through Dubai's primary outlets showed significant growth as it amounted to 4,381,000,000 dirhams. During that period most imports and exports transited Rashid Port since the total value of goods passing through the port was 3.35 billion dirhams with a total weight of 731,000 tons. The total value of goods transiting Jabal Port was 400 million dirhams with a total weight of 75,000 tons while Al-Hamriyah Port had a total of 27.5 million dirhams with a total weight of 22,800 tons and goods worth 33.1 million dirhams and weighing 15,200 tons passed through Shor Dubai. The total value of goods transiting Dubai International Airport during the same period was 570.1 million dirhams with a weight of 8,900 tons. Machinery and means of transportation constituted the largest part of the imports during this period, followed by manufactured and raw materials, animals and foodstuffs and oils. Most of the exports comprised scrap iron, salted fish and dates. [Text] [Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 30 Aug 81 p 2] 8389

INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION--New statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture show that agricultural, animal and fish production in the UAE rose during the past three years by 80.7 percent to 933.3 million dirhams in 1980. Vegetable production rose from 242.5 million dirhams in 1977 to 497 million in 1980, a rise of 105 percent. There was a 49.6 percent growth in animal production, rising to 333.9 million dirhams in 1980 as compared with 149 million in 1977. At the same time, animal production remained static during those two years at 213.4 million dirhams. The statistics showed that the area of land under cultivation during the past year was broken down as follows among various uses: fruit trees covering 71,000 dunums and representing 30 percent of the total agricultural land. Vegetables covering 46,600 dunums, that is, about 20 percent of the total cultivated land in the country. Groups covering 18,500 dunums, that is, 7.9 percent of the total land being exploited in agriculture. Grazing land covering 98,600 dunums which constitutes 42 percent of total agricultural land. [Text] [Dubai AL-BAYAN in Arabic 29 Aug 81 p 2] 8389

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE COMPANY--The Gulf Aircraft Maintenance Company is the name of the new Arab company for aircraft maintenance, which it has been decided to build in Abu Dhabi. It will be the first aircraft maintenance company in the UAE and in the Gulf states, with the exception of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, both of whom have hangers and maintenance shops that are still in the developmental stage. The new company is a joint project, with capitalization of 120 million dirhams (\$33 million), 60 percent from the government of Abu Dhabi and 40 percent from the Gulf Airlines owned by the governments of Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and the UAE. The company project will begin by awarding a contract to one of the consultant organizations to make a technical study and do the designs for the project. Implementation of the project will begin in 1982, to be completed within 3 years. At the end of that time, the company will be able to dispense with the maintenance workshops at Hong Kong airport, and to provide maintenance services for other aircraft in addition to the aircraft of the Gulf Airlines. [Text] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 240, 26 Sep 81 p 49] 7005

WESTERN SAHARA

BRIEFS

WESTERN SAHARA SOLUTION SOUGHT--The OAU and the Arab League are currently making efforts to put an end to the tension in the Arab Maghreb. The secretary general of the OAU, Edem Kodjo, is currently undertaking a tour which will take him to Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania. The tour began yesterday. Edem Kodjo said in a statement to the Kenya News Agency: What we want to avoid is a situation which, if allowed to continue, may jeopardize the cease-fire in the region. As long as a peaceful solution is not found, there will always be fighting, he added while commenting on the recent fighting in Guelta Zemmur. Meanwhile, the OAU special committee on Western Sahara will meet next month to hear the report of the secretary general of the Pan-African organization. This was made known in a statement issued by the presidency of the OAU. There will also be a summit of the Arab League next month. This was made known by the league's secretary general, who called on the countries bordering Western Sahara to cool their tempers and avoid worsening the Saharan problem. (Text) (AN260930 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 26 Oct 81)

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS DISCUSSED

San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 18 Aug 81 p 5

[Article by Anwar al-'Anisi: "A Step Along the Path to Advancement and Development of Agriculture in Our Country"]

[Text] Last Sunday the Office of Agriculture in San'a' Province opened a special course on horticulture (grafting and nursery work), sponsored by Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Dr Ahmad al-Hamdani. The opening of the course was attended by a number of experts and specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture and Mr Yeaman, charge d'affaires, of the U.S. Embassy in San'a'.

This course falls among the efforts and general concerns of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the field of developing Yemeni agriculture and improving agricultural crops and products. The present course is aimed at training a number of local cadres to advise farmers and train them in grafting, which soon will be done to improve and increase the cultivation of citrus fruits in general in various fields, nurseries and farms. The course lasts until next Sunday, 23 August, and includes a number of theoretical activities and lectures as well as a number of practical applications. This course is also being attended by ten delegates representing a number of provinces and agricultural projects in these provinces.

When asked about the importance of such courses, Dr Ahmad al-Hamdani, Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, said: "The courses offered by the Ministry of Agriculture were started to give an opportunity, first and foremost, to the employee in the ministry to take advantage of new knowledge and information. A course was held recently in the field of veterinary science, and other sessions have dealt with agricultural guidance, in Ta'izz, and this current session in the field of planting fruit trees, especially citrus fruits. These courses give an opportunity to take advantage of new experience and consequently enable the employee to bring better knowledge and more information to his work. We in the ministry attach great importance to them and support them, and we hope that this course expands and becomes permanent."

We asked Dr al-Hamdani what reasons or needs led him to set up the present course in the field of horticulture and consequently what goals this course could serve.

He replied: "First of all, we want to alert our brother employees as far as possible to the importance of fruit trees, their role in the national economy, and the need

to develop large-scale cultivation of fruit trees in different seasons and limited locations judged by the nature of the climate suitable to each tree.

"This is what is hoped for from this course. However, fruit trees have dimensions of great importance because we could become at least partially self-sufficient in fruit. This is my view of the subject. If the brothers come out of the course with just this little idea, we will have gained something. The purpose is to alert them and create an awareness of the importance of this aspect."

Dr al-Rahmani spoke of the situation of agriculture in general now and the overall picture of the future of agriculture in our country. He said: "I can say that agriculture needs a great deal of encouragement, because in the first Five-Year Plan the state concentrated on the economic structure, supplying well water as far as possible and building small dams. More important than all of this, the ministry often was able to supply improved seeds to the farmers in order to produce larger quantities. The ministry also was able to combat pests and insects which were destroying the crops, and naturally this increased the farmers' production. Many things may be available in the future. For example, there may be better methods of irrigation, because in my view the farmers waste a great deal of water, and the method of water distribution is still primitive. We must stop using these open irrigation ditches from which water evaporates and is lost. We hope that these new methods reach the field of irrigation here.

"There is also another very important field which we hope is included in the next Five-Year Plan in a serious and positive way. We are indeed interested in this subject, that of agricultural marketing, because we cannot have the farms produce a great deal of high-quality products and then find that there is no market for them at home or abroad. It is our great hope that the state, in cooperation with the Ministry of Supply and Trade and the Ministry of Economy and Industry, will aim at the production of certain agricultural goods and establish food factories. This trend does exist, and we in the Ministry of Agriculture are now concentrating on meetings to come up with unified programs. We have had continuous, repeated meetings with the General Federation for Development, the Ministry of Supply, the Ministry of Economy and the Agricultural Credit Bank. God willing, we will emerge with a complete picture and practical programs which we can submit to the Council of Ministers for approval. Then, in light of these programs, we can draw up a clearcut marketing policy. Naturally we will need central markets so that the farmers can get their produce to market.

"The purpose of this is to bring agricultural products to the citizen at very reasonable prices so that no crops will be wasted.

"You will soon hear about this subject, which in my opinion is the subject of the hour. There is also a very important aspect. There are programs in both Ta'izz and Dhamar connected with the subject of loss in storage, because our farmers store their crops by very old methods and lose large quantities of these crops to mice and insects.

"For example, a study was published in Ta'izz in which experts visited several villages over a 2-year period. They found that the loss ranged up to 15 percent of the farms' supply. This in itself is considered wrong because this is the only

product, and consequently it is considered a loss to the national product. Also, in Ibb we found that in some villages the loss of those stored crops reached 21 to 25 percent, and we cannot be satisfied with this. Indeed, the experts have drawn up new designs for barrels to stop such waste. We hope to expand these programs to other areas so that farmers may take advantage of them, and consequently we can preserve what was produced in bad conditions.

"These are our ideas, and it is our great hope that the next Five-Year Plan, with clear and sincere guidance from the president and the prime minister, will confirm that attention to agriculture is basic and necessary. We are communicating this same interest to our fellow employees in the ministry and the agricultural projects. We are concentrating our efforts now in hope of achieving all of these desires and ambitions."

Engineer 'Ali al-Barti, director of the Office of Gardens in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, says: "The importance of this course lies in the fact that through it we can enlighten the Yemeni farmer and help him to achieve the principle of self-sufficiency in seedlings, especially in fruit trees, and consequently we can increase the cultivation of those trees and improve their yield.

"For example, we are purchasing seedlings from other states in hard currency because we feel that we need them to improve and develop our agriculture.

"It is our great hope that the trainees will leave the course with a good advantage which will enable them to achieve the goals set for the course."

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